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BIRTHS.

On the 4th November, at Swatow, the wife of V. J. McLOUGHLIN, of a daughter.

On the 7th November, at Woosung Road, Shanghai, the wife of JOHN DEWAR, of a daughter.

On the 7th November, at 27, Range Road, Shanghai, the wife of H. R. H. THOMAS, of a daughter.

On the 11th November, at Smith's Villas West, Magazine Gap, the wife of P. E. HEERMANN, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 31st October, at H.B.M.'s Consulate, and afterwards at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., GEORGE JOHN, youngest son of G. HARMAN, of Hongkong, to BERTHA, daughter of EDWARD HAMILTON, Shanghai.

On the 1st November, at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., ANDREW GRAHAM, L.R.C.P. & S.E., of the Church of Scotland Mission, Ichang to JEANIE, daughter of the late ROBERT WEIR, of Kirkcaldy, Scotland.

On the 4th November, at Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., THOMAS KAY, son of THOMAS KAY, Farmer, Renfrew, Scotland, to JANET PATRICK, eldest daughter of Major J. R. WOOD, Renfrew, Scotland.

On the 12th November, at St. Joseph's Chapel, Hongkong, by the Rev. Father Augustine, J. MOWBRAY JONES, eldest son of J. WILLIAM JONES, "Lasswade," Forest Hill, to ANITA D'ALMADA E CASTRO, fifth daughter of the late J. M. D'ALMADA E CASTRO, Hongkong.

DEATHS.

On the 3rd November, at Shanghai, NANCY, younger child of the Rev. J. MILLER GRAHAM, of the United Free Church of Scotland Mission, Manchuria.

On the 4th November, at "The Bluff," Yokohama, JOHN RYCROFT, the eldest son of JOHN RYCROFT BEST ESQRE, late of the Bengal Civil Service, aged 52 years.

On the 4th November, at Kobe, JAMES SAMUEL WILDE, of Manchester, England, aged 39 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The German mail of the 14th October arrived, per H.A.L. steamer *Kiautschou*, on the 12th November (29 days); and the American mail of the 15th October arrived, per P.M. steamer *Peru*, on the 13th November (29 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The Japanese garrison has been ordered to evacuate Shanghai on the 22nd instant. The London *Daily Mail* learns that Shanghai is to be evacuated unconditionally.

Beside the battleship *Retvizan* the cruisers *Diana* and *Pallada* are now proceeding to the Far East. The St. Petersburg *Novosti* states that Russia intends sending immediately another ironclad and two armoured cruisers.

Lu Hai-kwan, the Chinese Treaty Commissioner; Yuan *taotai*; Li Chan-chun, the Provincial General; Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge; H.B.M. Consul-General Mansfield; Major Maxwell, Commanding the British garrison at Shanghai; Deputy Inspector-General Tredon, I.M.C.; Messrs. H. R. Kinnear, Vice-chairman, and J. O. P. Bland, Secretary of the Municipal Council; M. P. Brunat, Chairman of the French Council at Shanghai; and many Consuls left Shanghai for Nanking on the 13th inst. to attend the obsequies of the late Liu Kung-yi.

Mr. J. Henniker Heaton, M.P., in the House of Commons on the 13th inst., asked the Postmaster-General whether he was aware that letters from China to England arrived by the overland *rout* in 26 days as against 44 days by steamer. Mr. Austen Chamberlain stated that he believed it was a fact that letters sent from Chefoo to London took 26 days on the journey. The possibilities of the Trans-Siberian *route*, he added, would not be overlooked in settling the mail service of the future. The steamship contracts were terminable in January, 1905, by two years' previous notice.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Morning Post* reports that the Peking Government has formally yielded to Germany's demand for the neutralisation of the Yangtsze Valley. The *Morning Post* in a vigorous article strongly deprecates any overtures with or retreats before Germany. Other newspapers comment on Lord Cranborne's extreme reserve and demand a frank and explicit statement in Parliament. The *Daily News* gives special prominence to a statement affirming that the object of the visit of the German Emperor to England is to secure British sanction of Germany's claim in the Yangtsze region, as the price of Germany's quiescence while the Anglo-Portuguese negotiations with regard to Delagoa Bay are proceeding. The *Daily News* vigorously protests and says that we are in imminent danger of a surrender in comparison with which the Fashoda affair was trivial.

The news is confirmed that Mr. Bragg, United States Consul-General at Havana, and Mr. Rublee, United States Consul-General at Hongkong, exchange places.

A Brussels despatch states that it is officially confirmed that "China has granted rights of foreign possession to King Leopold's territory on the right bank of the Yangtsze." This is rather cryptic.

The war and other vessels in Hongkong harbour dressed ship on the 9th inst. in celebration of His Majesty's Birthday, and at one o'clock a royal salute and *feu de joie* were given and the National Anthem played.

Seven hundred Chinese robbers attacked and captured the town of Bodune to the south-west of Kharbin, Manchuria, in the beginning of October. A Russian force sent to dislodge them entered the town on the 24th of October, and executed the leader. The Russians will garrison the town until the attacks cease.

Mr. Evans, a constable in the service of the British Consul at Canton, was attacked on a junk by pirates whilst he was travelling up the West River, and seriously wounded, having no less than six bullets in his body. He was picked up later by the *Kong Nam* and conveyed to hospital at Canton. Mr. Evans is said to be a Crimean veteran. Details will be found on p. 379.

The *Universal Gazette* says that Mr. Kinder, Chief Engineer of the Northern railways, has been in the Chinese railway service for many years and is much trusted by his employers. Mr. Kinder had never before this shown any intention of resigning, while the Chinese authorities would not let him leave the service without grave cause; but since the transfer of the Railway by the Allies to the Chinese, he has evinced an intention to resign, the cause of which is unknown.

The birthday honours include Knighthoods to His Honour W. Meigh Goodman, Esq., Chief Justice, Hongkong, and E. F. Alford, Esq., formerly of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., the latter for services in connection with the revision of the Chinese tariff; Grand Cross of S. Michael and S. George to Sir James Mackay and the Honorary Grand Cross of S. Michael and S. George to Count Matsugata; Honorary Commander of S. Michael and S. George to His Highness the Sultan of Pahang; and Companion of S. Michael and S. George to R. W. Mansfield, Esq., British Consul at Amoy.

The 9th instant was the birthday not only of King Edward VII. but also (being the 10th day of the 10th Chinese moon) of the the Empress Dowager of China. In connection with this, we may note that the *Sin Wen Pao* states that on every tenth birthday anniversary of the Empress Dowager, an unhappy event happens to the country, as on her fortieth birthday anniversary the Empress Dowager lost her son; on her fiftieth, the French occupied Annam; and on her sixtieth, the Japanese entered Corea and annexed Formosa. Her seventieth birthday will come off the year after next, and as every tenth year of her life seems to be an unfortunate one, some of those at Court propose that the country should celebrate her seventieth birthday next year (when she is really sixty-nine years old).

GERMANY AND THE YANGTSZE QUESTION.

(*Daily Press*, 10th November.)

It is eminently satisfactory to learn that the Powers have at last arranged to evacuate Shanghai at any early date, leaving the details of conditions for subsequent settlement, as REUTER informs us. As China is stated to have agreed to make the required reparation in the matter for the Chengchow murders, Great Britain has no further reason for keeping troops at Shanghai, and apart from this matter no Power has any grounds for the retention of a garrison there in defiance of the arrangement made with the late LIU KUNG-YI. The difficulties over the evacuation have been rather incomprehensible, if we are to assume that all the four Powers concerned were straightforward. Our junior evening contemporary on Saturday night published, by arrangement with the *Ostasiatische Lloyd*, a Berlin telegram referring to the Shanghai question. This telegram reported the "absolute accord" of Britain and Germany and their agreement that every nation shall have the right to re-occupy Shanghai, should any foreign Power again land troops at the port. Such an agreement hardly seems necessary, as the "right" mentioned follows naturally from the peculiar position of Shanghai, and China's feelings in the matter were of course not considered. All that is done by the arrangement is to legalise sudden joint occupations of Shanghai if any one Power thinks fit to land troops at the port for the purpose of bringing pressure to bear on China. The gain to the Powers is a doubtful one. The concluding part of the Berlin despatch is curious, and we therefore reproduce it. "As Germany's proposal to "China, that she bind herself not to con-"cede to any other nation any preferential "advantages in the Yangtsze Valley, "whether political, military, commercial, or "economic, has been accepted by the "Chinese Government, there is no further "cause for discussion on this point." This is a piece of bombast. The conditions of the settlement await discussion, and the above statement merely reflects the attitude of the Berlin Press. Writing of this attitude with regard to the Yangtsze question, the *Japan Mail* of the 27th October made some very just remarks. "We are in the pre-"sence of an almost farcical display of bias," said our Yokohama contemporary. "No "German journalist can labour under the "smallest misapprehension in this matter. "He must know quite well that what "England objects to is not an arrangement "guaranteeing the integrity of the Yangtsze "Valley and the preservation of the open "door there, since these are the declared "bases not only of England's general "policy, but also of her compacts with "Germany and Japan. He must know "quite well that what she objects to is the "undisguised hostility of Germany and "France, which two Powers, having hitherto "professed to work hand in hand with her "for the settlement of the China problem, "have now deliberately thrown her over and "attempted to conclude with the Peking "Government an arrangement unequivo-"cally ousting Great Britain from the "position of acknowledged influence hither-"to held by her in the Yangtsze Valley." We can add nothing to the above which will make the situation clearer. The insincerity of the Franco-German move is shown by the limitation of the so-called "guarantee" of China to the Yangtsze Valley—as if China were now in despair of being able to maintain the integrity of the rest of the Empire. As represented by the Berlin journals and their Shanghai reflection the *Ostasiatische Lloyd*, Germany appears in the extremely unflattering light of a disloyal ally, and as the *Japan Mail* says at the conclusion of the article from which we quote above, the amicable desire of British subjects, who want to live at peace with Germany, whom they admire and in whose ambitions they recognise familiar sentiments, is receiving some rude shocks.

THE EVACUATION OF SHANGHAI.

(*Daily Press*, 15th November.)

The telegram from our Shanghai correspondent stating definitely that the Japanese garrison evacuates that port on the 22nd instant seems to mark the first step toward the termination of a very difficult affair. If the Japanese leave on the 22nd we may take it that the other three component parts of the mixed garrison will also depart at once and that at last Shanghai will be relieved from its unnecessary defenders. According to the London *Daily Mail* (unfortunately not hitherto the most trustworthy source of information as far as Shanghai is concerned) the place is to be evacuated unconditionally. Only a few days ago a Berlin telegram to the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* talked complacently of the discussion on Germany's conditions before evacuation being closed, China having consented to them. It is plain that one of these statements is incorrect. We characterised that in the *Lloyd* as "bombast," and such we still consider it; the Berlin telegram in our junior evening contemporary's issue of yesterday's date is but a reiteration of the same point of view; we have therefore the more hope that the *Mail's* version will prove to be the correct one. To admit the Chinese-German agreement would be for England to resign her claim to hegemony on the Yangtsze. What the actual story of the intrigues in connection with the Yangtsze question is, time will perhaps show. A Peking telegram to the Japanese newspaper *Jiji* gives one account, in which it is stated that Sir ERNEST SATOW asked Prince CHING some time ago if there was not some clause in the draft of the agreement for the evacuation of Shanghai which the Chinese Government was about to sign with Germany, and that Prince CHING replied definitely in the negative. A few days afterwards the Prince signed an agreement which was very disadvantageous to Great Britain. On the British Minister hearing of the issue of the affair he strongly denounced Prince CHING for his deceitfulness. Sir ERNEST SATOW declared he would have nothing to do with the Shanghai evacuation proposal if the Chinese authorities acted so unfairly and deceitfully; hence, adds the *Jiji's* correspondent, the delay in the withdrawal from Shanghai. Prince CHING's known vacillation of character lends a certain probability to the tale, but we should hesitate to accept it unsupported. It has become increasingly clear, however, that there was some such underhand attempt to undermine Britain's position in the Yangtsze Valley. This was discovered by Sir ERNEST SATOW, but whether it has been defeated remains to be seen. The announced date of the withdrawal of the Japanese troops augurs well for the settlement of the question, and this again seems to indicate that, unless the British Government has completely "climbed down," some other Power has performed that uncomfortable feat.

Reuter learns that the Powers have arranged to evacuate Shanghai at an early date, leaving details of conditions for subsequent settlement.

PIRACY IN THE CANTON NEIGHBOURHOOD.

(*Daily Press*, 15th November.)

We learn from a trustworthy source that there have been no less than six cases of piracy on the Canton River within the space of two days this week. In another column we give details of the murderous attack on an Englishman from Canton by West River pirates. It is evident that the river piracy which the late LI HUNG-CHANG struggled so hard to repress during his term of office at Canton, and which his successor His late Excellency TAO MU before his fatal illness tried to keep down, is now once more in full swing. The changes of posts which have marked the period following TAO MU's death have no doubt encouraged the immemorial pests of the Canton waterways to fresh efforts, and the absence of a substantive Viceroy has produced apathy on the part of the Chinese officials. This is natural, though it renders the inaction of the latter no less criminal. But there is another point which calls for consideration. What are the foreign gunboats on the West River and at Canton doing? Their presence in those waters is justified by the necessity of protecting life and trade which the Chinese alone cannot guarantee. It may readily be recognised that a gunboat cannot be ubiquitous, but if the work is too much for the instruments at one's disposal the only remedy is to get more instruments. If the Chinese officials do not try and the European policing force is too small to cope with the spread of piracy, there is still no reason for folding one's hands and resigning oneself to what is not really inevitable. It would be interesting to know whether the Hongkong authorities are displaying any interest in the matter. Britain has two river gunboats, the *Sandpiper* and the *Moorhen*, on the West River. When these have been mentioned, our representatives in the Canton district are exhausted. It seems hardly credible that at Canton itself Great Britain is unrepresented. Flying visits from the West River gunboats there have been, but our Fleet apparently cannot spare a single vessel for Canton. As far as the Admiralty is concerned, every effort seems to be made to encourage the idea that Canton is beyond the British sphere of influence. Perhaps that august body studies one of those maps in which the whole of the Kwang provinces are labelled "French sphere" and therefore does not concern itself with Canton affairs. There is, however, no reason why the Hongkong Government should subscribe to such an idea, having every reason to know better. In the interests of this Colony an appeal must be made that some remonstrance be addressed to the supine authorities at Canton to do their duty with regard to the adjacent waterways, and that at least one of our spare gunboats should help those authorities to restore that order which they are utterly unable to keep alone. Harmonious relations, on the whole, have prevailed for some years between Hongkong and Canton, but they cannot continue indefinitely if British commerce and even life is allowed to be menaced in the river districts in the very neighbourhood of Canton.

According to a Peking despatch to Shanghai, several wealthy Chinese are now in that city petitioning the Head Office of Mines and Railways for permission to construct a railway between Kaifeng, the capital of Honan province, and Nganking, capital of Anhwei province. It is further stated that the Ministers of Mines and Railways have given their consent to the enterprise, but that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has not made up its mind yet in the matter.

BLAKE PIER AND THE CLOCK TOWER.

(*Daily Press*, 12th November.)

In the course of his remarks in the Legislative Council on the 23rd ult. during the discussion of the Estimates, His Excellency the Governor said:—"With "reference to this matter of a shelter for "Blake Pier, I may tell hon. members of "this Council that I am as anxious as any "man in the Council to see this shelter put "up at Blake Pier, and I fully recognise "the importance of it; but unfortunately, "without increasing taxation, I do not see "my way to leaving that on the Estimates "for this year. At the same time, if we "found that the result of the year's revenue "appeared to justify it, I have it in my "mind that in those circumstances I should "ask the permission of the Secretary of "State to put a vote for that amount before "the Council with a view to carrying out "that work." After the work has once been placed on the Estimates, and the money voted, as was the case last year, we fail to see why the permission of the Secretary of State is requisite for proceeding with it. There is far too much reference of paltry details to Downing Street, and the officials at the Colonial Office must think we are a very helpless lot, unable to decide on any matter, however small. No petty municipality would be so leg-tied as the Government here appears to be. A good deal arises from dread of responsibility. If a Governor chooses to exercise his discretion in matters municipal it is hardly likely that he would be brought to book, unless in the course of carrying out a large constructive programme he achieved a heavy deficit. We cannot for a moment imagine that Mr. CHAMBERLAIN wishes that his consent should be specially obtained in order that a work for which the money has already been voted should be proceeded with. However that may be, the contingency that Sir HENRY BLAKE hoped for has since occurred, and the money is not only in sight, but has actually been received. On the 3rd inst. a sale of crown land at Kowloon was effected, Marine Lots Nos. 74 and 75 and Inland Lots Nos. 1,140 and 1,141 situated at Tsimtsatsui Point, being put up to auction. The upset price was $232,800, and only a nominal bid of $20 above that price was expected, but opposition turned up at the sale, and the land was ultimately knocked down for $451,000. This means that the Government are now in possession of a sum of nearly $220,000 which they never expected to realise, and on which they had never reckoned. It would have been a piece of good fortune merely to effect the sale at the upset price, for besides bringing in a very handsome sum of nearly a quarter of a million dollars it also adds an appreciable amount to revenue from the Crown rent payable yearly on the land, to say nothing of the taxes to be collected from the buildings with which it will presently be covered. But the Treasury is now in possession of a further sum of more than two lakhs of dollars which may, in a sense, be regarded as a gift, and the Governor is at once put in a position to redeem his promise and place the Blake Clock Tower on the Estimates. There is, indeed, now not the very ghost of a reason for further delay. The work is a necessary one—it has been officially recognised as such; and it would, in the hands of a municipality, have long ago been commenced. If only as a matter of decency and justifiable regard for appearances, the principal landing place in the Colony ought to be provided with a shelter from the elements. Travellers out from Europe must be struck rather forcibly with the contrast in this respect between Hongkong and the other ports at which they have landed *en route*. At Colombo, Penang, and Singapore, the landing piers are all protected from the sun and rain, but here in Hongkong passengers have to wait in the scorching heat or the soaking rain for their boat, nominally because the Colony is too poverty-stricken to provide shelter, but really because the Public Works Department is incapable of carrying out more than a given number of jobs at one time. As we have suggested before, if this Department is undermanned, it is the simplest thing in life to procure assistance: there are hundreds of engineers and architects in England only too ready to accept work; and as there is the money to pay for it no excuse for delay can be accepted. If, however, the responsibility of engaging a man from England be too great and crushing for our backboneless Administration, why then we have no doubt that any one of the private firms of architects in the Colony will be ready to take the work in hand and guarantee its completion in a couple of years. We trust therefore that His Excellency the Governor will assert his authority and have this work carried out. It is true the Colonial Secretary has laid it down with dogmatic fervour that the Clock Tower will have to wait, and the Director of Public Works seems to have regarded the work as impossible of accomplishment, but if the Head of the Executive becomes peremptory, difficulties quickly vanish.

THE ILLEGAL OPIUM FARM.

(*Daily Press*, 13th November.)

A little more than a month ago we gave, from a Chinese source, some documents dealing with the subject of the illegal opium-farm at Canton, comprising a letter from the British Consul to the Viceroy, a telegram from the Wai Wu-pu to the Governor of Canton, and a proclamation of the Governor in accordance with that telegram. The Canton Governor in his notice to his subordinates stated that the Provincial Treasurer, in conjunction with the Board of Taxation, would abolish the new tax on prepared opium at once. Commenting on this we said: "The benefit "accruing from the display of a little "firmness on the part of the British Govern- "ment may be seen. The obnoxious tax, a "flagrant violation of the Chefoo Conven- "tion, has been ordered to cease." We expected, and indeed it might generally have been expected, that the tax would stop immediately. We have, however, received information from an absolutely trustworthy source that so far from the illegal farm having ceased its operations, in the *hinterland* adjoining the New Territory, just across the British border, in fact, there is a chain of stations under the control of the farming company at which the tax is being levied at the present moment. This being so, it is time that the Hongkong Government took steps in the matter. The order of the Wai Wu-pu, or Chinese Foreign Office, as embodied in the proclamation of the Governor of Canton, is being entirely disregarded and that on the very borders of the British territory of Kowloon. No assurances of the Chinese officials should be allowed to weigh against the actual facts of the situation.

The German Emperor has sent the medal of the Red Cross to Lady MacDonald, wife of H.M. Minister at Tokyo, in recognition of the brave and untiring helpfulness shown by her throughout the siege at Peking.

TENGYUEH AS A TRADE CENTRE.

(*Daily Press*, 14th November.)

Among the lately issued Imperial Maritime Customs trade reports for the year 1901 is an interesting note on a proposed trade mart at Tengyueh (Momein) by Mr. G. F. MONTGOMERY, Commissioner of Customs, dated the 25th February last. To Hongkong residents Tengyueh, a walled town in South-western Yunnan, may seem rather remote and of little importance commercially. It is, however, the only Chinese town of any standing in the Irawadi River basin, and its position creates for it a distinct bearing on the question of the Burma-Yunnan frontier trade. As the scheme of a British railway into Yunnan seems now indefinitely shelved, a little consideration of the prospects of commerce in that part of the world, without the aid of railways, may not be altogether useless. The question of opening a custom house at Tengyueh under I. M. C. control was discussed some time ago and it was originally intended to open such a station in 1900. It was decided, however, to wait until the Northern troubles subsided. In the autumn of last year, when Mr. LITTON was appointed British Consul at Tengyueh, a Customs staff was sent from Shanghai to the same place. The Consular and Customs parties met at Bhamo and travelled together to their destination, which they reached in November. By their arrival the status of Tengyueh was naturally altered, and Mr. MONTGOMERY'S notes, which are illustrated by two sketch-maps, may be taken as an indication of intention on the part of the Imperial Maritime Customs to foster the development of commerce with Burma. The Commissioner quotes figures to show that the transfrontier trade is already in a flourishing condition. "To increase it in the future," he says, "some encouragement should be given to the export trade; but unfortunately Western Yunnan's most valuable product, opium, is prohibited from entering Burma, and there is little likelihood of this prohibition being removed." At present the exports which bulk most largely in the export list are leather, hides and skins, raw silk, living animals (chiefly horses, ponies, and mules), orpiment, tea, cordage and ropes, fruit and vegetables. The principal imports through Bhamo to Tengyueh are cotton, leather, and to a less extent woollen piece goods. The obstacles to the increase of trade are difficulty of some of the routes, the turbulence of the Kachins on another, and on the chief road, the Manwyne, the heavy exactions made from traders using it. Mr. MONTGOMERY instances the payment made on a load of 130 catties of cotton yarn imported *via* Manwyne, Nan-tien, and Tengyueh to Yung-chang, on the way to Tali-fu. Altogether Tls. 4.95 or about 15 per cent. on the value of the load are said to be exacted. "In future," he says, however, "the same weight of the yarn will have to pay only Tls. 1.71 if the Transit Pass system is made use of." From Mr. MONTGOMERY'S notes it may be gathered that if the vexatious taxes which merchants are at present forced to pay be got rid of in favour of the Transit Pass system, and if the Kachins be pacified so as to allow the reopening of a trade route which was used twenty years ago but is now abandoned, there is a prospect of a considerable advance in this transfrontier commerce; but at present the latter is only in its infancy.

Marquis Ito celebrated his 61st birthday on the 25th ult., and was presented by his admirers with a bronze statue of himself.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 13th inst. in the Board Room. Present:—Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer (President); Hon. Dr. F. W. Clark, Medical Officer of Health; Mr. F J. Badeley, Captain Superintendent of Police, Mr. C. McI. Messer, Acting Registrar-General; Lieut.-Colonel G. A. Hughes, R.A.M.C, and Mr. G. A Woolcock (Secretary).

EUROPEAN RESERVATION IN KOWLOON.

The SECRETARY laid on the table certain correspondence (already published in the *Daily Press*) with reference to a European Reservation in Kowloon.

SWAMP AT KENNEDY TOWN.

A minute prepared by the Medical Officer of Health was submitted relative to the swamp at the south end of Cadogan Street, Kennedy Town. The minute was in the following terms:—

"I beg to recommend that the Board should again direct the attention of the Government to the swamps at the south end of Cadogan Street, Kennedy Town, referred to in Sanitary Board letter No. 190 of December 21st, 1900, and C.S.O. letter No. 167 of January 23rd, 1901.

"In connection with these papers I called attention on January 25th, 1901, to a flourishing water-cress bed in this locality which was an undoubted source of danger as regards malaria to the Board's officers and servants at the sheep and swine depôts and the slaughter-houses, and which would be an equal source of danger to the inmates of the new Tung Wah Infectious Diseases Hospital.

"I do not know what title the market-gardener has to the land in this locality, but there can be no question that it is a most unsuitable one for such a purpose, and that in the interests of the health of the Board's officers and servants the swamp should be drained without delay and the market-gardener removed."

The Medical Officer of Health further minuted that at the request of the President he had visited these swamps on the 29th ult, and obtained a number of mosquito larvæ, most of which were anopheles.

The PRESIDENT moved that the attention of the Government be drawn to this matter, as recommended

Mr. BADELEY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

RECOVERY OF PENALTIES.

A minute by the Medical Officer of Health was submitted in which it was recommended that Inspector L. E. Brett, who had just returned from leave in England, be deputed by the Board to recover penalties imposed by the Public Health Ordinance, 1901, as required by section 91 thereof.

The PRESIDENT moved that Inspector Brett be appointed, as recommended.

Mr. MESSER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

OBSTRUCTION AT HEUNG LANE.

The following minute by the Medical Officer of Health was submitted:—

"I have the honour to direct the attention of the Board to Heung Lane with special reference to the obstruction of the entrance to this lane by the verandahs of the Queen's Road houses which are over Crown land. I attach a tracing showing the lane and the houses abutting thereon and also showing the verandahs. It will be seen that the arrangement of these verandahs is such that the entrance to the lane is practically blocked up, so far as admission of light and air is concerned, and the Board are aware that this lane has a most unenviable notoriety as regards the almost yearly occurrence of cases of plague therein. I would recommend that the Board should urge the Government to put in force the condition contained in the terms of agreement known as the 'Undertaking with regard to verandah (or balcony) to be erected on or over Crown land' and give to the owner of No. 45, Queen's Road three months' notice to amend the western boundary of his verandah by removing such portion of the same as projects beyond the line of the eastern boundary of the lane, projected to the roadway."

The PRESIDENT moved that the minute of the Medical Officer of Health be forwarded to the Government.

Mr. BADELEY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

WATER ANALYSES.

The report by Mr. F. Browne, Government Analyst, on the analyses of the public water supplies for the month of October showed that analyses had been made of samples from the Tytam, Pokfulam, Kowloon and Cheungshawan services and that the results in each case showed the water to be of excellent quality.

THE DEATH-RATE.

The mortality statistics showed the death-rate for the week ended 1st inst. to have been 22.1 per 1,000 of the population per annum as compared with 19.3 in the previous week and 19.5 in the corresponding week of the previous year.

LIMEWASHING.

The limewashing return for the fortnight ended 8th November showed that 2,572 houses in the Central District and 77 in the Western District had been treated.

DESTRUCTION OF RATS.

The SECRETARY submitted a return which showed that during the week ended 3rd November 1,735 rats were destroyed, of which 34 were found to be infected; for the following week the number was 2,328, of which 40 were infected.

This was all the public business.

THE KING'S BIRTHDAY.

The celebration of the birthday anniversary of His Majesty King Edward VII was fittingly carried out in Hongkong on the 10th inst. A public holiday had been proclaimed, and there was a complete cessation of work throughout the Colony. On the previous day, Sunday the 10th—the actual birthday of the King—a Royal salute was fired from the warships in the Harbour, while there was a liberal display of bunting made by the latter and all other vessels at the anchorage. On Monday, too, many of the merchant ships displayed flags. The main feature of the celebrations, however, was a grand review of the Garrison at Happy Valley. In the evening a Ball was given at Government House. Hongkong was not unrepresented in the list of Birthday honours, for His Honour W. Meigh Goodman, the Chief Justice, had conferred upon him the honour of knighthood.

PARADE OF THE GARRISON.

As indicated above, the principal item in the days' programme was the grand parade, on the Racecourse at Happy Valley, of the troops of the Garrison and their inspection by H.E. the Governor, Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G. The parade took place in the afternoon about half-past four o'clock. Shortly after three o'clock, the troops began to arrive, while large numbers of spectators flocked to the scene, until the Racecourse presented a most animated appearance. The parade was taken part in by the Naval Brigade, Royal Garrison Artillery, Royal Engineers, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, Sherwood Foresters, Hongkong and Singapore Battalion R.A., Army Ordnance Corps, Hongkong Volunteer Corps, 10th Bombay Light Infantry, 33rd Burma Light Infantry and 14th Bombay Light Infantry. As each of the regiments marched on to the ground headed by its respective band, the scene presented was one of great interest and picturesqueness. The smart uniforms of the bluejackets, the unrelieved white of the marines, the khaki of the English troops, and the more varied dresses of the Indians served to make up a picture to be admired. Preparatory to the inspection, the troops were mustered in column by Major Denny, Chief Staff Officer. Colonel L. F. Brown, R.E., Commanding the Troops in China and Hongkong, was in command, and was accompanied by Colonel R. F. Johnson, C.R.A., C.M.G., and other officers.

The saluting base, marked by a flagstaff bearing the Royal Standard, was opposite the centre of the Grand Stand. In the reserved enclosure there was a large and brilliant company of spectators, among those present being Lady and Miss Blake and Dr. Lello, the Acting Governor of Macao, and staff. It is estimated that there were in all 6,000 or 7,000 spectators on the Racecourse, while the number of troops on parade is put roughly at 3,500. The massed bands of the different units and the pipers of the H.K.S.B.R.A. and the 33rd Burmas were stationed in the rear of the centre.

When His Excellency rode on to the field he took up a station at the base and was received with the Royal Salute, the massed bands playing meanwhile a verse of the National Anthem. His Excellency wore the uniform of a Lieutenant-General and presented a fine appearance. Accompanied by the Commanding Officer and suite and his *aides-de-camps*, Captain Arbuthnot and Subadar Jkbal Singh, he made a formal inspection of the troops. This completed, the Governor returned to the base. Major Baker Brown, Commanding the Royal Engineers detachment, then marched his company in front of the saluting base, and His Excellency presented medals to several non-commissioned officers and men for services with the North China Expeditionary Force. In a few sentences, the Governor complimented those who had gained the medals and paid a tribute to the Royal Engineers for their general efficiency. The Engineers having retired into the lines, the march-past began to the strains of music from the massed bands. "A Life on the Ocean Wave" was the tune to which the Naval Contingent marched past, and as each succeeding regiment got upon the move, the bands struck up its particular regimental air. On the whole, the march-past was accomplished with great precision and with credit to all concerned. The marines, as usual, were well to the front in the matter of smartness, but where all were so good it is almost invidious to make comparisons. On all hands one heard expressions of admiration for the magnificence of the spectacle, and indeed it was such as to make Britons thrill with patriotic pride and such as to live long in the memory of every eye-witness. At the conclusion of the march-past, and when the troops had re-formed in column, Colonel Brown called for three cheers for the King. His Excellency gave the time, the cheers were taken up by troops and spectators alike, and a mighty shout went forth which made the hills reverberate. A few bars of the National Anthem from the bands ended the parade, and the troops marched away back to the City.

It should be mentioned that the arrangements were all carried through without a hitch, thanks largely to Major Denny's untiring energy. The policing of the ground was in the hands of the G.M.P., the Chinese Submarine Miners, and a few members of the H.K.P. under Inspector W. G. Warnock.

BALL AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

In honour of the King's birthday H.E. the Governor and Lady Blake gave a ball in Government House at 9.30 p.m. on the 10th inst. The scene, through the presence of the foreign representatives and the naval and military officials in full dress, in addition to the costumes of the ladies, was one of unusual brilliance, while the weather still being propitious the grounds of Government House were beautifully lit up with paper lanterns and illuminated for a portion of the evening with the flashlights of the British warships in the Harbour, the effect of which was striking in the extreme. Dancing was continued until 11 p.m., when a move was made to the supper-room. H.E. the Governor, who was supported by the presence of the Acting Governor of Macao, the consular representatives, the members of the local government, the leading naval and military officials, etc., made a short speech, in which he referred to his late visit to England and his impressions of the Coronation festivities. Dancing was then resumed and was carried on until the guests were compelled by the necessity of catching trams, boats, or chairs to retire homeward.

KNIGHTHOOD FOR THE CHIEF JUSTICE.

General satisfaction was felt when it was announced that the honour of Knighthood had been conferred by the King upon His Honour W. Meigh Goodman, the Chief Justice. His Honour has had a distinguished career, and has during his stay in Hongkong accomplished work of far-reaching importance to the Colony. Sir W. Meigh Goodman was educated at University College, and graduated B.A. (honours) at the University of London in 1867. He was called to the Bar, Middle Temple, in November, 1870, and went the South-Eastern circuit and attended the courts at Westminster.

and the Surrey Sessions. In 1883 he was appointed Attorney-General of British Honduras, and in 1886 Chief Justice. In 1886 he was appointed Sole Commissioner to revise and consolidate the laws of the Colony, for which work he received the thanks of the Legislative Council; and in 1889 he became Attorney-General of Hongkong. From May, 1891, till March, 1892, Mr. Goodman acted as Colonial Secretary. He sat as Acting Chief Justice from March till August, 1895; January till May, 1896; and April, 1699, till February, 1900. His appointment to the dignity of K.C. came as a well-deserved tribute to his abilities. When in the early part of the present year, shortly after his return from leave in England, Mr. Goodman was appointed to the Chief Justiceship of Hongkong, in succession to Sir John W. Carrington, the appointment was hailed on all hands as being a most suitable one: in the words of the then Acting Attorney-General, Mr. Wise, when he voiced the feeling of the legal profession on the occasion, "No better man could be appointed." Since his elevation to the premier judiciary position in the Colony, Mr. Justice Goodman has earned increasing admiration for the qualities of legal acumen, uprightness, and painstaking care which distinguish his hearing of and judgments in the various cases which come before him. His thorough knowledge of the Hongkong Ordinances is also highly appreciated by the local Bar. Apart from his professional pursuits, the Chief Justice takes a deep interest in the social advancement of the Colony, and his name is associated with numerous good works. At the time of the Coronation, he had an important and no light position to occupy as chairman of the Celebrations Committee, in which capacity a great deal of the credit devolved upon him for the success of the various functions connected therewith.

In common with all the residents of the Colony, we beg to congratulate Sir. W. Meigh Goodman most heartily upon his advancement.

A CELEBRATION AT SEA.

The H.A.L. *Kiautschou*, which arrived on the 12th inst. from Germany and ports in command of Capt. Luneschloss, celebrated no less than three anniversaries on the way out, the first being the birthday of the Princess Empress of Germany, which took place on October 23rd: on this occasion speeches were made and responded to with the heartiest enthusiasm. The second to take place was the birthday of the Emperor of Japan which occurred on November 3rd and on which occasion speeches were again made and met with good receptions. The third occasion was on Sunday last, November 9th, when one of those pleasing functions took place which have done much to popularise the H.A.L. with the British travelling community. A special menu had been prepared as well as appropriate music. There were no toasts announced beforehand but during the progress of dinner one of the German passengers who, we understand, holds a very important position in the German navy, rose and made a speech in which he said that they had already celebrated two birthdays on the way out but there was still another to be honoured and that was the 61st birthday of His Majesty King Edward the VII of England. He went on further to say that the past twelve months had been marked by the great cordiality and good feeling shown between the two nations; not only was it noticeable as between the two great nations themselves, but evidences were not wanting as to the kindly feelings existing between the two nations on board the *Kiautschou*, and it was with infinite pleasure he asked all to rise and drink the health of His Majesty King Edward VII of England. The toast was drunk with the utmost enthusiasm, during which the band played the British National Anthem. After the lapse of a quarter of an hour an English passenger rose to make some remarks, during the course of which he said that he did not rise to respond to the toast of King Edward nor would he presume to do so seeing that the toast of Royalty cannot be responded to by others than members of the Royal Family, but he would embrace this opportunity of conveying to the Captain Luneschloss and officers of the *Kiautschou* on behalf of the British passengers their keen appreciation of what had been done for their pleasure and welfare during the present trip. After making a few more appropriate remarks he asked all present to charge their glasses and drink to the health of the Captain and Officers of the *Kiautschou*. This toast was received very enthusiastically. After dinner a number of passengers assembled in the smoke-room to again drink the health of His Majesty King Edward VII, thus terminating a very pleasant evening.

SIR W. MEIGH GOODMAN'S KNIGHTHOOD.

CONGRATULATIONS AT THE SUPREME COURT.

The members of the legal profession in the Colony met in the Supreme Court on the 13th inst. to offer their congratulations to His Honour the Chief Justice upon the honour of knighthood conferred upon him by His Majesty King Edward VII. The Chief Justice was accompanied on the bench by His Honour the Puisne Judge (Mr. A. G. Wise). The members of the Bar present were the Hon. Sir Henry S. Berkeley, Attorney-General; Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.M.G.; Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C.; Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C.; Mr. M. W. Slade; Mr. F. A. Hazeland, Police Magistrate; Mr. T. Morgan Phillips, Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz; Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, Chief Clerk at the Magistracy—barristers; Mr. H. L. Dennys, Acting Crown Solictor; Messrs. M. J. D. Stephens, C. D. Wilkinson, V. H. Deacon, E. A. Bonnar, S. W. Tso, E. C. Pontifex, F. C. Barlow, H. K. Holmes, P. W. Goldring, J. Hays, Wei On, F. X. d'Almada e Castro, F. B. Deacon, K. W. Mounsey, H. W. Looker, J. S. Harston, E. J. Grist, F. P. Hett, H. F. R. Brayne, G. C. C. Master, G. K. Hall Brutton, J. Hastings, and H. Hursthouse—solicitors; Mr. G. H. Wakeman, Land Officer; Mr. J. W. Norton Kyshe, Registrar; Mr. A. Seth, Deputy Registrar; Mr. C. J. Xavier, Acting Deputy Registrar; Mr. L. d'Almada e Castro, Acting First Clerk of Court and Clerk to the Chief Justice; Mr. A. B. Suffiad, Acting Second Clerk of Court; Mr. Li Hong Mi, Acting Chief Interpreter; Mr. Wong Kwok U, Court Translator; Mr. Un Kum Wa, Acting Assistant Interpreter; Mr. F. Howell, Head Bailiff; Messrs. J. Leonard, J. F. Rozario, Assistant Bailiffs; Mr. V. A. Sales, Clerk and Usher; Mr. Lung Tsan, Shroff; and Mr. G. Thomas, Librarian. Lady Goodman was also present.

The gentlemen present having risen to their feet.

The Attorney-General said—May it please you, my Lords, your Lordships have been asked to sit this morning in order that we may tender to you, my Lord, the Chief Justice, the congratulations of the Bar of Hongkong upon the distinction which His Majesty the King has been pleased to confer upon you in recognition of your long and valued services as a Law Officer of the Crown in this Colony. The solicitors of the Supreme Court have asked me to tender to your Lordship their congratulations in addition to the congratulations which are offered you by the members of the Bar. My Lord, the honour of knighthood has frequently in the past been conferred upon Law Officers of the Crown in various portions of His Majesty's dominions for services rendered; and though it is no doubt the case that in every instance the recipient was worthy of the honour bestowed upon him, yet I feel that in no instance has that dignity been more worthily bestowed than in the present. (Applause.) My Lord, for the last twelve years your Lordship filled the responsible and laborious post of Attorney-General of this Colony, and you have done work in connection with that office which is highly appreciated by those with whom you were brought into direct contact and which will in the fulness of time bear fruit for the welfare of the Colony. My Lord, in the volume of well-considered legislation in which you have played a principal part during the period to which I have referred you have erected for yourself a monument of industry with which your name shall always be honourably associated in this Colony. My Lord, it is the earnest hope of the members of the legal profession that your Lordship will long continue to preside over the administration of justice in this Colony, and we desire to add to our congratulations an expression of our hope that a long life of happiness may be before you. (Applause.)

The Chief Justice said—Mr. Attorney-General. Allow me to thank you most sincerely for the kind words you have spoken and the congratulations you have offered me on this occasion, and to express my gratitude to the gentlemen of both branches of the legal profession for the honour they have done me by appearing here to-day. I can truly say that I have always received much consideration and kindness from the barristers and solicitors of Hongkong, and that my relations with them all, during the twelve years I was Attorney-General here, were always of the most friendly and cordial character. Sir John Smale was, I believe, the first Chief Justice of this Colony who was knighted. Since then, for more than a quarter of a century, it has been the custom to bestow that honour upon his successors, and, indeed, I remember that, as Attorney-General, I had, myself, the pleasure of congratulating in Court two of my predecessors, *viz.*, Sir John Carrington and Sir Fielding Clarke, when knighthoods were conferred upon them. It is, doubtless, to that custom, which I consider conducive to the maintenance of the dignity of the Supreme Court in this Colony, rather than to any personal merits of my own, that I owe the title I have recently received. It is but natural that, when a man has been for more than 19 years either an Attorney-General or a Chief Justice in His Majesty's Colonial service, he should highly appreciate a mark of Royal recognition that he has, at least, tried to do his duty according to the best of his ability. Allow me once more to thank you gentlemen for your attendance here to-day.

The company afterwards dispersed.

ATTACK ON AN EUROPEAN ON THE WEST RIVER.

We have obtained the following further details about the murderous attack by West River pirates on Mr. Evans, constable in the service of the British Consulate at Canton:—

At 11.45 p.m. of the 12th inst., whilst the s.s. *Kong Nam*, Captain Austin, was *en route* from Hongkong to Canton, a little to the southward of Tiger Island signals of distress from a trading junk were observed. The *Kong Nam* bore down on her, and ascertained that she had been pirated at 7.30 p.m., when off Cha Si, a village near Tiger Island. The pirates, of whom there were about 20, first fired a volley in the air, apparently to frighten the junk's crew, and then they boarded the junk, seized and bound all the crew, and on catching sight of a foreigner exclaimed, "Oh! here's a foreigner; let's kill him, as he can fight ten of us"; at the same time a shower of bullets was poured into him. After ransacking the junk from stem to stern, and taking everything of any value, even to a few live fowls, they began to depart in their dug-out, but not before some of the party suggested throwing the body of the supposed dead man overboard, which however they did not carry into effect, owing to the pleading of the people on the junk. About $1,000 in cash was stolen, besides everything of value they could lay hands on. The junk was boarded by the chief officer, who was accompanied by the chief engineer, of the *Kong Nam* (the latter having a knowledge of the Chinese language), and they found out on enquiry that the wounded foreigner was an Englishman named Evans, who was for many years the British Consul's constable at Canton, and has only recently retired on a pension. The *Kong Nam* then steamed alongside of the junk and the wounded man was transferred to the steamer, where he was attended to by the officers, and his sufferings alleviated as far as it was possible for non-medical men to do. The steamer then proceeded at full speed to Canton, and on arrival there sent immediately for a doctor, who, on seeing the man, ordered his immediate removal to the hospital, which was promptly carried out. Mr. Evans was on passage to Hongkong with his wife (who is a native woman) and two children. The captain of the junk being a nephew of Mrs. Evans, accounts for her husband's presence there as a passenger.

Gen. Bell, U.S.A., has filed a libel suit against the Manila *Libertas* for some editorial remarks on him in its issue of the 27th ult. The complaint states that the accusations therein were made with malicious intent to injure General Bell.

THE CHENGCHOW MURDERS.

CHINA'S REPARATION.

On the 2nd inst. there was issued the following Imperial Decree, for the translation of which we are indebted to the *N.-C. Daily News*:—

"With reference to the massacre of the English missionaries Bruce and Lowis, at Chengchow, Hunan province, a short time ago, we have already in response to the memorial of the Governor given commands that C'hen Hsinien, district magistrate of Yuanlinghsien; Liu Liangju, First-Captain of the Chengchow garrison battalion; Chang Yao-k'uei, Lieut.-Colonel of the Yi battalion; the former district magistrate of Yuanlinghsien, Wan Chao-hsin; and Major-General Yen Wulin, Brigadier Commanding the Yi Brigade; should be first cashiered and reduced to the ranks for the purpose of undergoing trial. We have now received another memorial from the said Governor Yü Lien-san stating that when the riot first began, the late Mr. Lowis fled from the mission premises and in passing the yamên of the First-Captain, Liu Liang-ju, the latter shut his yamên gates, refusing to receive the said missionary, in consequence of which said missionary was beaten to death by the mob. With regard to the Major-General, Yen Wulin, when the mob was passing his yamen *en route* to the chapel he remained inactive as if ignorant of the purpose of the rioters and omitted to render the necessary protection to the missionaries and mission premises, while as to Wan Chao-hsin, the former Chihhsien of Yuanlinghsien, knowing that he was so soon to be superseded he purposely took no notice of the current rumours, omitting to use any efforts to put a stop to them. In consequence of this it brought about the said serious riot. With regard to the other officials of Chengchow, their faults were of various degrees; such as either failure to give the proper protection or they did not beforehand take the necessary steps to give such protection. All were, however, deserving of punishment. We have again and again commanded our military and civil officials to give every protection to foreigners and missions, yet our orders have not been observed, as witness the recent serious affair in Chengchow. Now in the case of the First-Captain Liu Liang-ju, his guilt was doubly serious above all others in that he did not give protection when he was able to do so, and we particularly execrate the man's conduct. We hereby command that he be summarily executed. The cashiered Major-General Yen Wu-lin of the Yi Brigade is sentenced to await decapitation in gaol; Chang Yao-k'uei, Lieutenant-Colonel of the Yi battalon, and Chao Yu-tien, Lieutenant-Colonel of the Kueiyang battalion, are hereby cashiered and dismissed for ever from the army; Wu Chih-chun, prefect to Chengchow, is also cashiered and dismissed for ever from the public service; he is also to be exiled for five years. The cashiered ex-district magistrate Wan Chao-hsin is commanded to be banished to the utmost limits of the Empire and is never to be liberated or allowed to return home. These punishments are awarded as a warning to all."

The *N.-C. Daily News* of the 5th inst. says:—One very salutary effect of the Imperial Decree commanding the summary decapitation of the First Captain of the Chengchow (Hunan) garrison, Liu Liang-ju, an official holding a substantive post of the 4th grade and in possession of that all-important—in Chinese eyes—insignia of rank, a properly constituted yamen, is the immense significance it will have in the minds of the whole mandarinate of China, inasmuch as it establishes that most beloved of all things to the official mind—East as well as West—"a precedent." The importance of this diplomatic victory of Sir Ernest Satow over the Chinese officials of Peking and Hunan in obtaining such a drastic Decree cannot be estimated, for it establishes a precedent for the future settlement of all anti-missionary riots involving the loss of life. One, or even two dozen or so, military officers of substantive rank sentenced to decapitation is of small consequence in the eyes of the Chinese Government and the mandarinate in general. But they declare that if the British Government have succeeded in getting the precedent now of a military officer summarily executed for failing in his duty in giving the necessary protection to an ordinary foreigner of no official rank even, why not as easily the heads of civil mandarins of the same (Tao'ai's) or higher grades in the future? It is this "precedent" which has struck terror and disgust into the hearts of all Chinese officials who have heard of this Imperial Decree of the 2nd instant with reference to the punishments of officials implicated in the Chengchow massacre case, and certainly we may expect more perfect protection of foreigners in the interior hereafter on the part of all mandarins, unless from those who do not care to preserve their heads.

THE A.D.C.'S PERFORMANCE OF "LIBERTY HALL."

It was felt no doubt by the members of the Hongkong Amateur Dramatic Club that when they undertook to produce Mr. R. C. Carton's four-act drama *Liberty Hall* they were setting themselves a task of no small difficulty, one far more exacting than had fallen to the lot of their nearest predecessors who have upheld the standard of amateur acting in Hongkong. All Mr. Carton's plays are interesting, but all of them require good acting to make them successes from the point of view of the audience. *Liberty Hall*, since its first appearance at the S. James's Theatre, London, in December, 1892, has established itself as a public favourite, and it has been revived in London within the present year, as well as once or twice in the interval, if we are not mistaken. In the provinces, too, it has always managed to please the spectators. It has just about the right admixture of sentiment and humour to take the fancy of an English audience, and, though having of course no pretensions to being a great play, must always be considered a pretty one. There is a slight atmosphere of, say, twenty years ago in *Liberty Hall*, but that perhaps is not disagreeable to the majority, for whom the very much remoter Tom Robertson has his charm still.

The A.D.C., as we have said, undertook no light task in *Liberty Hall*, and no doubt when the play had been decided upon, the allocation of the parts was not among the least of the difficulties. It may be stated, however, that this very delicate operation in an amateur club seems to have been admirably performed. The few old members were entrusted with characters well suited to their proved capabilities, while the new recruits, to one of whom fell one of the three parts on which the making of the play depends, showed that their talents had been gauged to a nicety. We must take the opportunity here to pay a thoroughly deserved tribute to the most excellence stage-management of Mr. E. W. Mitchell, Secretary of the A.D.C. who is said (though it is hoped that this is not true) to be making the production of *Liberty Hall* his last essay as stage-manager. Anyone who has had anything to do with theatricals knows how essential a good stage-manager is to a good performance.

It is not necessary to enter here into the plot of Mr. Carton's drama. The story is simple enough, that of the pride of birth brought into contact with humble surroundings, as typified by the interior of a failing bookseller's shop in unromantic Bloomsbury. In the characters of *Blanche Chilworth*, who will not accept her unknown cousin's offer to live on at Chilworth, which has passed from her late father's possession to his, and who therefore goes with her sister to her maternal uncle's offered refuge in Bloomsbury; and of *Hartley Chilworth*, the cousin, with a reputation of being "eccentric," who hides his identity and lives as lodger in the same Bloomsbury shop—in these characters and in that of *Todman* the old bookseller, the interest of *Liberty Hall* principally lies. In securing for the representation of these parts such performers as Mrs. M. W. Slade, and Messrs. G. Balloch and C. H. P. Hay (who have already made their mark on the local stage), the A.D.C. has every reason to congratulate itself. Mrs. Slade had not been before Thursday's audience more than a few minutes before it was felt that Hongkong had a talented and charming addition to the ranks of its amateur actresses. In fact, it was generally agreed among those who had seen the most A.D.C. performances here that her *Blanche Chilworth* was as good as any impersonation by a Hongkong lady they could remember. She managed to prevent the haughtiness of *Blanche* from being too aggressive, while she brought out to the full the sweeter side of the character. At the termination of the third act she was particularly good, and the house lost no opportunity of showing its sincere appreciation of this fact. Mrs. Slade is to be congratulated on a singularly successful first appearance on the boards of the Hongkong theatre. Mr. Balloch, who, as *Hartley Chilworth, alias Mr. Owen*, was associated with Mrs. Slade in her strongest scenes, was entirely admirable, and in his return, after several years of absence, the A.D.C. is most fortunate this year. His ease of manner was all that could be desired, and even in those speeches given to *Owen* in which the author has scarcely escaped the charged of platitude, Mr. Balloch managed to reconcile his hearers. His voice is of a singularly sympathetic and pleasing tone. Mr. Hay is no stranger to Hongkong audiences. His successes in the near past are fresh in our memories. Yet he was able in the role of *William Todman* to add more laurels to his record. His assumption of the part of the broken-down old bookseller was wonderfully kept up. Looking like the benevolent old man in *A Pair of Spectacles*, his carriage and actions were in excellent accord. Perhaps his conception of the part was too senile, too pathetic, but the merits of his acting are not to be denied. As *Gerald Harringay*, Surgeon Norris had to grapple with a difficult and at first not altogether sympathetic part. Having got through the opening scene he improved very distinctly and had his audience with him at the end. Mrs. Norris as *Amy Chilworth, Gerald's* sweetheart, filled her rôle very gracefully and was at her best in the third act. Mr. John Hays who impersonated the "villain" of the piece, *Briginshaw*, the vulgar owner of the emporium where everything, "even the proprietor," is in the gross, was excellent beyond expectations. Hitherto seen only in very small parts, Mr. Hays realised himself splendidly last night, and, though we think a suaver *Briginshaw* would be more akin to the author's design, he almost convinced us that the blustering attitude was the right one. Mr. Looker made *Mr. Pedrick* a trifle too slow—indeed in the first act there was a slight drag generally—but he had a part which gave him but little scope. Mr. A. G. Ward, however, in another small part, that of *Mr. Hickson*, made a distinct hit and his exit in the third act, the only one in which he appeared, was capital. Miss Bird as *Miss Hickson* was inimitably quaint, with her corkscrew curls and galoshes, and shared with Mr. Ward the distinction of getting the utmost out of a minor rôle. Mrs. Hastings played *Crafer*, the tempestuous servant, with a great sense of humour, and if she made the character a little too refined that was but natural. Mr. Hett's *Binks* was very amusing, but he rather overdid the cockney accent; weakened, it would have been more realistic. Finally Mr. H. W. Bird's *Luscombe* must be seen to be admired; it was an admirable rendering of an almost inarticulate part.

We must not forget to add that the new scenery was made by the staff of the A.D.C., from designs by Mr. H. W. Bird.

The following was the full cast:—

Blanche Chilworth	daughters of the late Sir Norman Chilworth	Mrs. M. W. Slade
Amy Chilworth		Mrs. Leigh Norris
Mr. Owen (Hartley Chilworth)		Mr. G. Balloch
Hon. Gerald Harringay		Surgeon Norris, R.N.
William Todman		Mr. C. H. P. Hay
J. Briginshaw		Mr. John Hays
Mr. Pedrick (solicitor)		Mr. H. W. Looker
Mr. Hickson		Mr. A. G. Ward
Miss Hickson (his sister)		Miss Bird
Robert Binks (a shopboy)		Mr. Hett
Crafer (Todman's servant)		Mrs. Hastings
Luscombe		Mr. Bird

By permission of Capt. White, R.N., and officers, the band of H.M.S. *Ocean* performed, to everyone's satisfaction, the following programme:—

Overture	"Zampa,"	Herold
Selection	"The Emerald Isle,"	Sullivan
Valse	"Schatz,"	Strauss
'Cello Solo	"The Broken Melody,"	Van Biene

Liberty Hall was repeated on Friday before a well-filled house, those present including H.E.

the Governor, Sir H. A. Blake, G.C.M.G., Lady Blake and Miss Blake, Sir John Keane (Private Secretary to H.E.), and Capt. Arbuthnot, A.D.C., besides several prominent public officials. The familiarity with the different parts afforded by the public appearance of Thursday evening brought with it a greater degree of smoothness in the working of the play, and contributed distinctly to the success of a performance that was much enjoyed by all present.

The band of H.M.S *Ocean* played the following selection of music during the evening:—

Overture..... "William Tell," ..... Rossini
Selection ... "The Toreador," ..... Caryll
Valse ..... "Ballscenen," ..... Czibulka
Mazurka..... "La Czarine," ..... Ganne

STREET DANGERS IN HONGKONG.

It is not too much to say that that portion of Queen's Road between the Post Office and Ice House Street would vie with many of the most congested London crossings in the matter of dangers to the pedestrian. The never ending double line of rickshas pretty well monopolises the whole of the available walking space there. Then there is the frequent bicycle. One hears cyclists often complaining that they can ride their machines only at the imminent risk of a broken neck, for the tinkle of the alarm bell conveys no meaning to the ricksha-puller or his *confrère* the chair-coolie. Some wheelmen have resorted to the practice of carrying a stick at the handle-bar with which to persuade the obstructionists to "halve the road," thus following the example set by a very worthy member of the medical profession in the Colony. But while cyclists have no doubt ground of complaint, the general public who do not use the wheel have some cause to grumble at the cyclist. Cases of furious riding are far from being exceptional in the crowded streets of the city. Reckless riding, too, is common, entailing primarily perhaps danger to the rider but as often as not danger also to pedestrians. For instance, a cyclist was seen the other day coming down Battery Path at a high rate of speed without a brake. It was more by good luck than good guidance that he did not crash into a group of chairs and rickshas standing at the bottom. Another cyclist rushed down the steep gradient of Ice House Street at break-neck speed, the only restraining agency being his foot stuck in the fork. One almost shivers to hear it related that a young lady came down Old Bailey some time ago in the same foolhardy fashion. Another danger to the lieges exists in those heavy, lumbering hand-carts which stacked with bales or bottles come down with a rush from the side streets to the Queen's Road level. Especially is this nuisance obvious in the neighbourhood of D'Aguilar Street. It is a wonder that accidents are not more frequent than they appear to be. Of the same sort are the big water-carts of the P.W.D.; these also sometimes come down from the side streets, such as Garden Road, with a crowd of coolies hanging on in the rear in an endeavour to overcome the velocity of the descent. Surely commonsense should teach the coolies, or at any rate their overseers, to use a skid-brake. It is simple, anything but costly and its effectiveness is beyond question. Slipped below one wheel it would retard the heaviest descending waggon and rob of their terrors the potential Juggernauts of Hongkong.

The drafting of the cases for Japan on the one side and Great Britain, France, and Germany on the other in relation to the House-tax has now commenced, says the *Kobe Chronicle*. As already reported, Mr. H. W. Denison for the Foreign Office and Messrs. Miyaoka and Ochiai are drawing up the Japanese case, while the foreign case will at first be drafted by each nation concerned in the arbitration separately. The British committee consists of Sir Claude MacDonald, with Mr. J. C. Hall, British Consul at Kobe, and Mr. A. A. C. Bonar, British Consul at Yokohama, Mr. A. H. Lay, of the British Legation, being Secretary, and Dr. Musujima giving legal advice. We understand the case that is being drafted by Germany has been entrusted to the Consuls of Yokohama and Kobe, and that a similar course has been taken by the French Legation.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND BUILDINGS BILL.

EUROPEAN LANDOWNERS' PETITION.

The following petition, dated the 28th September, 1902, has been addressed to H E. the Governor and is now made public:—

To His Excellency Sir Henry Arthur Blake, Knight of the Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of Hongkong and its Dependencies, and Vice-Admiral of the same.

The humble petition of Jardine, Matheson and Company, the Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Company, Limited, Douglas Lapraik and Company, the Hongkong Canton and Macao Steam-boat Company, Limited, the China Fire Insurance Company, Limited, the China Traders' Insurance Company, Limited, the Spanish Dominican Procuration, the Humphreys Estate and Finance Company, Limited, Hormusjee Narojee Mody, Emanuel Raphael Belilios, C.M.G., David Sassoon and Company, Limited, E. D. Sassoon and Company, Linstead and Davis, and Siemssen and Company sheweth that:—

1. Your petitioners are among the principal European landowners in this colony.

2. On the 7th July, 1902, a Bill entitled An Ordinance to Consolidate and Amend the Laws relating to Public Health and to Buildings was read for the first time in the Legislative Council, the Bill having for its purpose the improvement of the sanitary condition of the colony.

3. Your petitioners welcome the prospect of new legislation for this purpose, believing that modern discoveries in sanitary science, the ravages of plague and other diseases in the colony during the last few years, and the late frequent collapses of buildings, amply prove some change in the law to be desirable.

4. Your petitioners however most respectfully but strongly urge that the Bill is defective in respect of certain principles which should be fundamental to such change.

5. The first and most important of these principles is that whenever private vested rights are sacrificed for the public advantage, full compensation should be made as is always directed in such cases by English Acts of Parliament. No principle is more firmly established in our constitution, or has oftener been upheld by our courts, than the principle that, without compensation, a violation of the rights of private property will not be permitted even for the general good of the community. That the public should pay for what it so acquires is an economical axiom which your petitioners feel sure has but to be stated to be recived. Your petitioners, who believe they express herein the general sense of the landowners of the colony, would be glad to assist the Government, so far as they are able, in any reasonable sanitary experiment wherein the right to compensation is recognised. It should be remembered that the present landowners invested their capital in this description of property with certain rights attached, in the faith that such rights would be preserved, which, if they are not, a disastrous failure of public confidence must ensue. It should also be remembered that there is this radical difference between insanitary houses in England and such as may be called insanitary here, namely that the former are for the most part ancient structures, older than any restrictive building legislation, and openly defying the first principles of health, while the latter were erected in conformity with the sanitary and building laws of the colony for the time being in force. A house in Hongkong which the Bill would make insanitary has not only been hitherto tolerated by the Government, but is the very creature of the law; and, if innovations in the law compel the owner the in public interest to rebuild or alter his house, he should be compensated for any loss thereby occasioned him. It should also be remembered that the proposed legislation is at best but tentative and temporary, and that doubtless the antiquated sanitary principles of twenty years ago bear much the same relation to the accepted doctrines of to-day as will these to those of twenty years hence.

6. Regarding the principels of compensation whereon municipal improvements of the kind here comtemplated have been carried out in England, your petitioners beg to refer Your Excellency to the following Public General Act:—

(*a*) The Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845, opens with the recital that "it is expedient to comprise in one General Act sundry provisions usually introduced into Acts relative to the acquisition of lands required for undertakings of a public nature and to the compensation to be made for the same." This is the keynote of the Act, which is devoted to effectuating the principle that everyone injuriously affected by any such undertaking shall receive full compensation.

(*b*). The Towns Improvement Clauses Act, 1847.

Section 21 provides that compensation shall be paid for any damage occasioned by the execution of the powers of the Act.

(*c*). The Public Health Act, 1875.

Section 121 (as also The Infectious Diseases Act 1890, section 6) provides for the destruction of infected clothes and bedding, subject to compensation.

The Bill contains in the byelaws for Disinfection in schedule B a similar power, but without the relieving provision of compensation, which should certainly be given in these cases, as also wherever damage is caused in the process of disinfecting houses under the byelaws for the Prevention of Disease in the said schedule.

Section 155 empowers the local authority to regulate the building line, subject to the compensation of any owner injuriously affected.

Contrast Section 6 (19) of the Bill; compensation should certainly be paid to any owners of land already leased from the Crown who is required to sacrifice part of his land by a change in the building line.

Section 38 propounds the principle of compensation in the following words:—"Where any person sustains any damage by reason of the exercise of any of the powers of this Act, in relation to any matter as to which he is not himself in default, full compensation shall be made to him."

This is precisely the position wherein your petitioners claim that the Bill should place owners in this colony. But the following, among many others, are instances wherein the Bill would, without any compensation whatever, inflict the most grievous injury upon owners, in cases where they have fully complied with the existing law.

Section 6 (53) of the Bill proposes to reduce the European reservation by an extensive tract. Many large and costly European residences have, in reliance on the existing law, been built within this tract, and the immediate effect of the approach of Chinese tenement houses would be to depreciate such property. If it is necessary thus to increase the Chinese building area, your petitioners submit that it should only be done on terms of compensation to owners who are injuriously affected thereby.

Section 48 of the Bill. Your petitioners agree with the Government as to the necessity of preventing overcowding in Chinese dwellings, but they suggest that the allowance of double the air space required by English Acts is excessive. The Chinese as a rule live much out of doors, use little artificial light, and no fires except a few sticks at certain hours of the day in the kitchen. The byelaws made in England by the Local Government Board under The Public Health Act, 1875, require sleeping-rooms three hundred cubic feet for each inmate, and The Factory and Workshop Act, 1895, requires ordinarily two hundred and fifty cubic feet. It is is submitted that in Hongkong four hundred cubic feet as provided by The Public Health Ordinance, 1901, is ample, and that at any rate if the allowance so recently fixed by the local legislature is now to be increased this can only be justly done subject to compensation for any loss thereby occasioned in accommodation and rent.

Section 147 of the Bill forbids the erection of buildings more than forty feet deep without lateral windows. The effect of this is that owners of deeper sites already leased from the crown (*e.g.* Praya Reclamation lots) must sacrifice either every third house in a row or so much of the land as exceeds the forty feet. Putting aside all questions of the expediency of the prohibition, it is clear that these sacrifices should not be required without compensation.

Sections 148 and 149 of the Bill virtually forbid cubicles. Apart from the question of

whether some form of cubicle is not practically necessary to the domestic life of the poorer Chinese, it is certain that their abolition would entail a loss of rent. The prohibition therefore, in the case of land already leased from the Crown, should only be applied subject to compensation.

Section 170 of the Bill provides in effect, as decided in the recent case of *Knight v. Moses* (6th July, 1902), that the owner of a row of houses, erected in 1900 according to the then existing law, of however little depth, facing on one side a private street twenty feet wide and on the other (the kitchen) side a public street thirty feet wide, must, for the purpose of light and ventilation, pull down part of each house so as to make a further open space; although if the streets had happened to be reversed, and the one on the kitchen side had been private, it would, even if only six feet wide, have sufficed. It was also decided, despite the provision that "a domestic building with two main frontages in different streets shall be regarded as two domestic buildings if the depth exceeds fifty feet," that such a building of less than this depth cannot have two frontages, but that one of them must be called the rear. Apart from the patent absurdity of such provisions, your petitioners submit that an owner can only under these circumstances be fairly required to alter his property subject to compensation. It may be observed that the section renders illegal the Hongkong Club, the Hongkong Hotel, the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, the Chartered Bank, and other of the principal edifices in the colony

Section 171 of the Bill proposes to double the space between a new building and the hillside. In the case of re-erecting an existing building, or of erecting any building on land already leased from the Crown, this condition should only be imposed subject to compensation.

Section 175 of the Bill provides, in the case of new buildings on land already leased from the Crown, that part of the land shall be left vacant for a back lane. It may be observed that, where lots do not align in the rear, this space would be discontinuous and not available as a lane. In any case the requirement should be subject to compensation.

Section 177 of the Bill contains further new and drastic provisions as to open spaces on land already leased from the Crown. Apart from the question whether this section is not impracticable as rendering many valuable sites useless for building purposes, and the question whether it does not defeat its own object seeing that an owner will not voluntarily rebuild at such a sacrifice as it entails, and the question whether the provision that the required open space may be shared between adjoining owners is not illusory because the owner who happens to be first obliged to rebuild must provide the whole, it is obvious that, if the section is retained, it should be made subject to compensation.

Section 179 of the Bill imposes another new condition on land already leased from the Crown, namely that in future all private streets must be laid out under the Government's direction. This should be subject to compensation whenever the Government vetoes a scheme now legal, or enforces a scheme of its own which causes loss to the owner.

Section 180 of the Bill proposes new restrictions upon the width of such private streets; here again compensation should be paid.

Section 182 of the Bill forbids the re-erection of any existing building over a private street. This can only be equitably done subject to compensation; on which basis your petitioners are, as regards the undesirability of houses erected across the entrances to private streets, in such full accord with the Government that they would advocate the compulsory removal of such houses forthwith.

Section 202 of the Bill, Your petitioners also agree with the Government as to the expediency of enabling the building authority to require an owner to shore and protect any building which in the said authority's opinion is dangerous: but your petitioners submit that the owner should have a right of appeal, and if it appears that the building is not in fact dangerous he should receive compensation.

In nearly all these instances the Government's desire is manifest to remedy the parsimony of its own past policy regarding streets and open spaces, which policy indeed is now being repeated in the newly developed districts on the mainland, by virtually confiscating from private owners for the purposes aforesaid land which ought, in the first instance, to have been retained therefor by the Government.

(*d*) The Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890.

Section 38 empowers the local authority to compel an owner to remove an obstructive building subject to compensation, and in section 21 the compensation is described as the "fair market value" of the property.

Your petitioners beg also to refer Your Excellency upon the same matter to the following Private Municipal Acts:—

(*a*) The Birmingham Corporation Consolidation Act, 1883, and the Building Byelaws, 1887, made thereunder.

This Act, in section 31, &c, fully recognises the principle contended for, and is the more valuable as a precedent by reason of the prominent part taken by the present Secretary of State for the Colonies in the passing of the Act, and in the improvement scheme which occasioned it.

Section 39 further provides that no new building shall be erected within a certain distance of the centre of any carriage road subject to compensation where an existing building has, upon re-erection, to be consequently set back.

(*b*.) The London Building Act, 1894.

Section 15 provides for widening streets, subject to compensation.

Section 23 provides for setting back any projecting building which has been taken down or destroyed, subject to compensation.

The Bill in section 181 similarly provides for setting back, but without compensation.

Section 93 empowers an owner improving his building to underpin the adjoining owner's premises, subject to compensation to the adjoining owner.

This compensation would of course be payable by the owner and not by the Government, and the framers of the Bill have in section 239 been curiously tender to preserve the provision, alone of all regarding compensation except that payable in respect of the resumption of land by the Crown under Part V.

(*c*.) The Glasgow Building Act, 1900.

Section 60 provides that the height of new buildings shall not exceed one and a half times the width of the street where they stand, but the right of the owner of an existing building to re-erect it to its actual height is reserved.

Contrast section 185 of the Bill wherein, if the Legislative Council declines for any reason to insert the same general reservation, the owner's right should be recognised by compensation.

(*d*.) The Liverpool Improvement Act, 1882, and the Building Regulations, 1901, made thereunder.

Regulations 31 and 32 provide that when a projecting building is taken down or destroyed it shall be set back to the building line, subject to "full compensation" to the owner.

Regulation 33 empowers the local authority to adjust the building line, subject to a like compensation.

Regulation 34 empowers the local authority, when any building has been taken down or destroyed, to alter the building line, subject to a like compensation.

And so general and municipal Acts might be cited indefinitely, and in all it would appear that the English Legislature is ever jealous to fully recompense any individual whose interests have suffered for the common good.

7, Your petitioners suggest that, when the Government and the owner disagree as to the amount of compensation, the system of arbitration provided under The Public Health Act, 1875, and which has been found to work so satisfactorily that it has been generally adopted in Municipal Acts since that date, be resorted to; and that, unless the Government and the owner concur upon a single arbitrator, they shall each appoint one, and the two arbitrators shall in case of need choose an umpire to finally decide whereon they differ.

8. Another important matter of principle is the question of the expediency of giving to one officer of the Sanitary Board—the proposed Sanitary Commissioner—such large and arbitrary powers as the Bill contains. With an ideal man, whose successors at least could not be assured, a despotic system may be the most convenient, as otherwise it is certainly the worst. Your petitioners urge that all important discretionary matters whereof time would permit a reference to the Board may be so referred, and that the functions of the Commissioner, if such an officer is to be appointed, may be exercised under the control of the Board, and restricted to points of detail and routine. Further, as it is intended that the Commissioner shall be a medical man, your petitioners submit that he should at any rate be relieved from all such work as specially falls within the province of the civil engineer and architect.

9. As to the proposed abolition of verandahs over public streets, your petitioners most respectfully submit that the proper use of the Government's right, which is the public right, would be to encourage the erection of such verandahs wherever the width of the street suffices. Verandahs not only protect passengers from sun and rain, an invaluable boon in a tropical climate, but they enable windows to be kept open in the bad weather which often prevails during our hot season, they render practicable larger windows than could otherwise be used, and they provide a place where women and children may obtain the benefit of the open air with privacy. Your petitioners suggest that in streets from thirty to fifty feet wide verandahs should be allowed, and in streets of greater width they should be compulsory. It may be assumed that few owners would sacrifice their own land to build verandahs, and such verandahs even if built would not protect the footpath.

10. As to the definition of "external air" in section 149 (9) of the Bill, your petitioners beg to point out that it would render illegal the buildings mentioned in the sixth paragraph of this petition as being also illegal under section 170 of the Bill, the new Queen's and Prince's Buildings, most of the principal European residences and offices in the colony, and the improved Chinese dwellings designed by the Director of Public Works and approved by Messrs. Chadwick and Simpson, who lately visited Hongkong as sanitary experts. Your petitioners suggest that the said definition be altered so as to include, as they submit it reasonably should, any open space whereon the owner cannot build.

11. As to the large sum required for the purpose of compensation, your petitioners think that this should be raised, as it is in similar cases in England, by a loan repayable in a term of years. In view of the present uncertain state of the Bill your petitioners hesitate to name the amount or conditions of such a loan, and they suggest that a committee of financiers be appointed to consider the matter. Many owners would doubtless be prepared to carry out the requisite work at their own cost, receiving part of their compensation in the form of reduced Crown rents, prolonged leases, and the like Your petitioners submit that a definite and comprehensive scheme of the improvements contemplated by the Bill should be formulated, that the work should be spread over a period of years, and that a beginning should be made as soon as possible with some of the oldest properties in the central districts.

12. Messrs. Danby, Denison, Ram and Gibbs, Leigh and Orange, and Palmer and Turner, civil engineers and architects of this colony, have, at the request of your petitioners, prepared a fully technical report upon the Bill. This report is enclosed. Its details are unnecessary to repeat. It reveals in the Bill the hand of the novice in building matters, and of one inappreciative of the rights of property. It shews that some provisions, taken bodily from the English statute book, are practical and well drawn. It shews that others have been so altered in the taking as to be deprived of their original value. And it exemplifies by many further instances the circumstance that throughout the Bill (with the single exception aforesaid) all the careful provisions of the English Acts for compensation wherever private rights are infringed have been scrupulously omitted.

Your petitioners therefore pray that Your Excellency may be pleased to direct that the Bill in its present form be withdrawn from the further consideration of the Legislative Council, and that it be so amended as to comprise the principles aforesaid and especially to provide

compensation when private and vested rights are injuriously effected for the public benefit.

Here follow the signatures.]

The Colonial Secretary has replied as follows:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 6th October, 1902

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th instant forwarding a petition regarding the Public Health and Buildings Bill for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor and to inform you that His Excellency has already considered most of the points submitted in his examination of the Bill.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) F. H. MAY,
Colonial Secretary.

A. SHELTON HOOPER, Esq

JAPAN AND THE SIAMESE QUESTION.

[FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

Tokyo, 5th November.

By the end of this month the Crown Prince of Siam will arrive here from America, a special envoy from the Siamese Court will arrive here from Bangkok in Siam's biggest "war-vessel," the Japanese Minister from Bangkok will also arrive here; and there will probably be more talk of a matrimonial alliance between the royal houses of Siam and Japan, and of a *rapprochement* between the countries over which these royal houses rule. I should therefore like to give in the present paper some general ideas of Japan's attitude towards Siam so far as I have been able to understand that attitude.

In the first place, I must say that there is no truth in the talk about the matrimonial scheme just alluded to; and it may safely be insisted on that no Siamese Prince has any prospect of carrying off to Bangkok as his bride a daughter of the Mikado. King Chulalongkorn would probably like such an alliance very well, but I do not think the Japanese would, and that for various reasons. In the first place the Siamese Royal family is not good enough for them: the common people at any rate would hardly be inclined to regard with satisfaction the marriage of an Imperial Princess coming of a semi-divine family, to the future ruler of a small, imperfectly known and backward state which was long tributary to China. On the other hand, the statesmen of Japan would very heartily dislike any connection that would tend to bring them into conflict not only with France but perhaps with England. Then again the future of Siam is doubtful. It can scarcely follow in the footsteps of Japan for the good reason that the strong middle class which brought about the Restoration in this country and of which Marquis Ito, Count Okuma, Count Itagaki and other famous men among the new peers were the leaders is non-existent in Siam. These reasons tell equally against an alliance or a *rapprochement* between the two countries. From a sentimental point of view such an alliance would be fine; but the Empire of Japan is not ruled by sentimentalists, as has often been shown. It is ruled by very long-headed, unexcitable, well-informed men who are perfectly well aware that Europe is extremely touchy on the subject of a Yellow League, and that any steps on Japan's part to form such a league would probably lose her the alliance of Great Britain and perhaps deal a death-blow to her future development.

At the same time it must be confessed that in Japan there is a small jingoist section headed by Prince Konoye which warmly sympathises with Siam and which would perhaps take an imprudent manner of showing that sympathy if it had the chance. The Japanese generally know little about Siam and care less, their whole attention being concentrated on Corea and China; but some sympathy for Siam, accompanied by some corresponding irritation against France, was lately excited among the general public in this country by the violence of the French papers on the occasion of the engagement by the Siamese of a Japanese judge as legal adviser. This led the Japanese papers to point out that they had never made any objection when French employees are employed by the Corean Government; and also to study the Siamese question for themselves, with the result that they found the French case to be absurd. This was owing perhaps to the bad manner in which that case was presented by the French paints of Tonkin and Annam—one of these papers *L'Indo-Chinoise Republicaine* blaming the French Government latterly for not allowing the French authorities in Annam to cross the Mekong and annex as much as they liked of the territory that lay on the other side.

The news of the recently concluded treaty between France and Siam has served to make the Japanese feel better inclined towards the former country or less disposed to regard the latter as having been balked. To better understand their feelings on this point, it must be remembered that shortly after the conclusion of the Anglo-Japanese alliance the French Press worked itself into a tremendous passion over what it regarded as French designs in Siam and Tonkin,—a passion which the recent Franco-Siamese treaty now proves to have been simulated with the object of withdrawing attention from the negotiations that were to end in the loss of so much Siamese territory. The Japanese feel somewhat sore in consequence; and the *Japan Times*, a well-informed paper edited by Japanese, voices their feelings in the following editorial:—

"When the Franco-Russian Alliance or rather its extension over the Far East was announced shortly after the publication of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance last Spring, we did not hesitate to welcome the announcement as an additional guarantee of peace in these quarters. Since then, however, hints have not been lacking which would indicate that the extension was to mark the beginning of a new policy of intrigue and coercion on the part of the agents of the two Powers, in Eastern Asia. And if the conclusion of a new treaty between France and Siam which we reported yesterday is to be regarded as a first fruit of the alliance in its extended form it may justly be said that all the Asiatic states are now confronted with a very serious outlook. . . . The Japanese will not be the first people to suspect some relation between the Franco-Russian alliance and the new Franco-Siamese treaty and full particulars in the latter connection when they are received here should be made a subject of careful study, especially as one of the most influential of the Parisian papers, according to a Reuter despatch we publish this morning, is apparently well satisfied with its terms and this would mean that France has had everything her own way. In the meantime we notice that Siam is engaged in or rather is being inveigled into another trouble of a more or less international character as some cuttings we give elsewhere would show. We cannot help doubting the wisdom of harassing Siam with another cause of embarrassment at this moment, at least from the British side."

The latter allusion is of course to the alleged occupation of the Malay state of Kelantan by the British; and the boldness of it on the part of a semi-official organ and in face of the Anglo-Japanese alliance is to be admired. These frank expressions seem to indicate that, however calm and prudent may be the statesmen who now sway the destinies of Japan, the popular imagination in this country is not quite uninfluenced by the dream of a Free Asia.

The *Manila Cablenews* of the 1st inst. says:—The Moro situation is looking more hopeful than it did several weeks ago, and General Summer feels disposed, according to his telegrams to the division headquarters, to allow the refractory Moros more time to consider the proposition of peace before reducing their forts.

The Crown Prince of Siam, who left London on the 3rd ult. for Siam, travels *via* the United States and Japan. He is expected to reach Bangkok early in January next year. The Crown Prince has spent the past nine years in England, where he has received his education, at Harrow, then at Sandhurst, and then passed through the Staff College at Camberley. Later he entered at Christ Church, Oxford, where he made history his special study, writing a treatise on the history of the Poles. He received the G.C.V.O. from the King, and is the possessor of numerous European decorations.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 8th November.

CHARITY FOILED BY PIRATES.

During the drought which caused such vast destruction of rice-crops in Canton and the outlying districts, the charitable institutions Oi-yuk Tong and the Kwong Chai Tung Wa, Kwong Yan, Sut Sin, Sung Ching and other hospitals got up subscriptions, and sent men to Wuhu and Chinkiang to buy rice and bring it back to Canton to be sold to the poor at cheap prices. The Acting Prefect Kung has also petitioned the Viceroy and obtained some money from the Government for the same purpose. Some ships were chartered to bring the rice to Canton. On their way hither, when passing the Waterlily Mountain, a number of pirates attacked them, and carried away over 2,000 bags of rice, to the value of over ten thousand taels. Yesterday the charitable institutions presented a petition to the Punyu Magistrate to beg of the Viceroy to cause the arrest of the pirates and the recovery of the rice, and also to send men-of-war to convoy the rest of the rice.

AN ARTFUL RUSE.

The Namhoi Magistrate is well-known as one of the ablest and most scheming officials in Canton; his strategy is such that it seldom fails. A few days ago he went with a number of soldiers into the village of Sa Tow to suppress a big clan fight. When there he ordered gentry and elders of the belligerent parties to appear before him on board the mandarin boat; they came fully expecting to meet a frowning face or to hear a severe lecture. Instead, in a pleasing and conciliatory manner, he bade them sit down, and requested them to advise their people not to fight for a mere trifling motive but to live at peace with each other. They were so well pleased that they have consented to bind themselves never to fight again; the Magistrate then requested them to surrender all their arms. After the bonds had been signed and the arms surrendered, he ordered them to be detained, and on counting them over, there being more than three thousand pieces of arms, he ordered them to be confiscated and fined the possessors five taels apiece, amounting to 15,000 taels or more. Then the elders and gentry knew that they had fallen into a trap.

SWATOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Swatow, 4th November.

THE KWONG HING COMPANY.

In writing about this concern in my last letter I was led, through information received to hold very pessimistic views with regard to its continued existence. Events here have proved otherwise. Messrs. Bradley & Co., who had imported ten chests of opium as a test case, left them, owing to some difficulties in the Customs Godown. After days of procrastination they took delivery of two chests yesterday, and one was, immediately after leaving the Customs premises, seized by runners, armed to the teeth, of the Kwong Hing Co. On being apprised of this Mr. Richardson, head of Messrs Bradley & Co., proceeded without delay to the opium tax office and, his interview not being satisfactory, he reported the matter to the British Consul. The latter, on being informed of what had happened, repaired at once to the Kwong Hing Co's premises and asked the officials there to have the chest of opium released at 4 p.m.

In defiance of the Consul, they have refused to comply with his order and are still retaining the opium. The action of the Kwong Hing Co., which caused great consternation among the Chinese, particularly the opium merchants, can only be regarded as very high-handed and as a distinct and flagrant breach of existing treaties. It is very strange and surely coming to a farce that China can be permitted so utterly to disregard existing treaties in allowing members of an Opium Farm, the formation and existence of which was strongly protested against by both the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce and the representatives of the British Government, to

lay hands on and take away goods belonging to an old established British firm of high reputation. Should the British authorities, contrary to expectations, fail to obtain full redress for the wrong done to the firm in question and have once and for all the continuance of the Kwong Hing Co. prohibited the prestige of Britain would be greatly lowered in the eyes of the Chinese, who already consider Messrs Bradley & Co.'s affair as a case of "losing face."

THE CASE FOR THE COMPANY.

En passant, I would like to refer to the leading articles, obviously inspired, that appeared in the *Hongkong Telegraph* a short time back. The author, who leads one to believe that he holds a brief for China or the Kwong Hing Co., falls into many errors which I find it unnecessary to touch upon. Nor are the regulations of the K. H. Co., as published in your junior evening contemporary, in exact accordance with those promulgated here. The salient point which the Viceroy in his despatch to the British Consul-General at Canton dwelt upon is that the new tax is only to be collected when the opium has passed from the importer to the retailer. How then can this statement be reconciled with the above described action of the Kwong Hing Co.? It now remains for the British authorities to take very energetic measures and awaken China from her lethargy to a sense of duty and responsibility. To avoid a repetition of such a *contretemps*, full redress should be exacted for the wrong and insult done to Messrs. Bradley & Co.

THE NEW TARIFF.

By a notification issued by the I. M. Customs the public was informed that the "revised Import Tariff" was to come into operation on the 31st October.

THE BICYCLE CRAZE.

The Chinese here seem to be stricken with the bicycle mania. There are many natives who own bicycles, and there are also two repairing shops in the city. Every day the votaries of the wheel may be seen out riding and exhibiting all sorts of puerile tricks on their bicycles, to the great astonishment of vast crowds of spectators. The other day I saw a Chinaman scorching at a great speed, when lo! he stood in an erect position with his feet on the saddle whilst his bicycle was still in motion. Such deportment is certainly not decorous nor safe in a public thoroughfare, and forcibly reminds one of a certain advertisement where a monkey is shown disporting on a bicycle.

5th November.

THE OPIUM TROUBLE.

Messrs. Bradley & Co. took delivery of three more chests of opium from the Customs Godown yesterday, one of which was again seized by the Kwong Hing Co.'s runners. I hear from good authority that the British Consul here telegraphically instructed the Consul-General at Canton of the occurrence, and the latter's action is now anxiously awaited.

MAIL-CLOSING FOR COAST PORTS

Since my letter anent above appeared in your columns I notice an improvement in the desired direction, for mails are now notified as closing at 8 and 9 a.m. on the day of the vessel's sailing, instead of as previously at 5 p.m. the day previous.

Swatow, 12th November.

THE OPIUM FARM.

I hear from a most trustworthy source that as soon as the Viceroy at Canton was informed by the British Consul-General there of the events here which I have reported in my last letter, he and the Governor both wired, without loss of time to the local Taotai, Foreign Deputy, and *Cheng Hai Shien* ordering them immediately to get the two chests of opium which had been seized from Messrs. Bradley & Co. released. Furthermore, the two managers, Chiao and Hü, of the Kwong Hing Co.'s local office, were ordered to proceed at once to Canton to be present at an investigation to be held there. It is noteworthy that both the Viceroy and Governor, in their despatch to the Swatow officials, maintained that as long as a ball of opium is covered by a customs label, indicating the payment of duty and *lekin*, it is to be freed from any further charge or tax, and the seizure of Bradley & Co.'s opium is hence a "breach" of the Chefoo Convention.

The Wai Wu-pu, on hearing from the Viceroy of Kwangtung of the affair here, ordered that the office of the Kwong Hing Co. be closed, as their rules and regulations for the collection of the new opium tax were not properly drawn up. They are, however, later on, to devise better ways and means to levy the tax on opium. But the opium tax office has not closed its doors yet, and the two managers are still here.

As a fitting end to the opium affair here it would be as well to insist on the absolute abolition of the Kwong Hing Co.'s offices everywhere.

AMOY.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Amoy, 13th November.

The U. S. S *Monterey* has been with us a month. The *Wilmington* arrived last week and we hear that several more are coming soon. This should make our little port lively during the winter season.

The Athletic Sports postponed from the Coronation festivities were held on the 8th inst. in honour of the King's Birthday. The programme consisted of 15 items, some of which were keenly contested. The recreation ground was decorated with Venetian poles and bunting, and, with the pretty dresses of the ladies, the whole lawn presented a gay scene. The band of the *Wilmington* played during the afternoon, and was much appreciated by the old and young. Refreshments were provided, and I think everybody enjoyed themselves.

Training for the Races is now in full swing. The 12 subscription griffins were obtained direct from Tientsin this year instead of Shanghai. Whether this new departure is an improvement remains to be seen.

The Chinese houses destroyed by the late fire are now being rebuilt and the prices of building materials have gone up considerably.

Last week the popular agent of Butterfield and Swire, Mr. A. Cumming, left for Swatow to which port he has been transferred. He has been replaced by Mr. H. Burton.

NORTHERN NOTES.

The following items are from the *P. & T. Times* of the 31st ult:—

Attention is drawn to the "Manchurian Revival" which the Empress Dowager is undertaking under the advice of Yung Lu.

The S. Andrew's Society at Tientsin has been organised and will give a ball on the 28th inst.

A volunteer fire brigade is being organised at Tientsin.

The Governor of Shantung objects to foreign consuls at Chinanfu as it is not an open port.

The premium on foreign cheques touched 29 per cent. on the 30th.

Over 15,000 tons of mining gear and railway stock have been sent up to the Peking Syndicate's works in Honan.

A 700-ton lighter, the *Saxon*, was safely launched at the Taku Tug and Lighter Co.'s yard on the 28th ult.

Kang Yu-wei denies all complicity with the Kwangsi rebellion.

The Russians are fortifying the city of Harbin.

We grieve to say that at the very last another of those lamentable fatalities which have so frequently befallen the men of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers during their residence in North China, occurred at Taku Bar. The lighter taking on board the baggage at the Bar had to drop astern in consequence of the heavy sea: one of the men in charge at 11 p.m. jumped overboard, and though his comrades made every attempt to save him, he was not seen again. He belonged to the Peking detachment. His name was Williams.

Rumours are current in Peking that the Board of Revenue has found the funds for a small branch line from Kaopei-tien on the Lu-han line to Hsiling, which is a township up on the Kalgan road and not far from the well-known Western Ming Tombs. As far as we can discover, the new branch is chiefly for the Court's convenience, and is neither to be built nor administered by the Belgians of the Lu-han. There is a good deal of vagueness in official circles as to the object and management of the line.

The latest news current about Tung Fu-hsiang is sent down by the Governor of Shensi and Kansu in a private despatch to Peking, and as a matter of course is immediately published. Tung is described as being at Hochentze, round which place he has built a strong wall and also deepened the moat. He has gathered most of his old troops around him and his force is estimated at some 6 battalions well armed and supplied with ammunition. A Prefect of Shensi had some private intercourse with the general at the Governors' request, and Tung informed him that before he would dream of giving up his position he should require four things. 1.—That the Court be given to understand that whatever he did in 1900 was by Prince Tuan's order. 2.—That all his adherents (civil) be given positions to keep them contented. 3.—That a certain Ma Um-fung, his enemy, be sent to Li. 4.—That the soldiers who have refused to be disbanded by Imperial order be paid in full. We should say that the above conditions are a Chinese equivalent for a declaration of defiance.

PUNJOM MINING CO., LD.

An extraordinary general meeting of shareholders in the above company was held on the 11th inst. at the office, 13, Beaconsfield Arcade, for the purpose of confirming a special resolution passed at a private meeting held on the 23rd ult. Mr. R. C Wilcox (chairman) presided, and the others present were Messrs. T. Howard, W. K. Hughes, A. R. Ezekiel, S. A. Joseph, E. J. Moss, E. W. Terrey, M. Michael, W. Parlane, B. J. Barlow, E. J. de Figueiredo, J. Lee, A. H. Meyer, M. H. Baptista, A. N. L. Soares, and S. J. Michael.

The notice convening the meeting having been read by the SECRETARY,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, as you are aware, this meeting has been called in pursuance of a decision come to at a private meeting of shareholders held on the 23rd ult. At that meeting we had a shorthand reporter present and a full note was taken of what took place. The report of those proceedings has been circulated, and I hope it has reached every shareholder of the Company. As far as possible at any rate, it has been so circulated and I hope you are all well acquainted with the objects of this meeting in consequence. I do not think there is much to add to what was said on that occasion, because nothing further has occurred either at the mines or elsewhere beyond the fact that we have had another crushing reported, and that was fairly satisfactory, though not so satisfactory as we could have wished. Still, it brought us in a considerable addition to our funds, and if we go on at the same rate we shall be paying working expenses at the mines at any rate. Still, the necessity for an addition to our capital remains, and I am sorry to say we cannot hold out any hope that an addition to our capital will not be wanted. It will be wanted, because we shall have to pay for the survey of the concession, and we shall have to do more prospecting even than we have done in the past. You see, a mine cannot be opened up unless you have got a certain number of prospectors, and so we shall be compelled necessarily to add to our staff even before we can do anything in the way of development. Of course, we could go on in the same way as we have hitherto done, and I should like to have gone on thus for a little time longer if we could without appealing to you. But we have been compelled to do it, and so there is nothing more to be said. The decision is really in your hands, and I should like to hear if anyone has any question to put or suggestion to make, further than was made at the last meeting, before I propose this resolution.

Mr. S. B. JOSEPH—Mr. Chairman, in view of the remark you made just now, I want to know whether it is absolutely necessary that a call of fifty cents should be made in January? If our crushings should give satisfactory results, do you think it is likely—or rather will you find it convenient to postpone the call of fifty cents till some time after the Chinese New Year?

The CHAIRMAN—I wish I could answer you in the affirmative Mr. Joseph, but I am sorry to say there is too much uncertainty in the matter to admit of my pledging myself or the Board to any statement as to time, because, you see, it takes time to raise this money, and it takes time to get it in. You

have to give long notice beforehand, and then you have to set in motion the machinery for getting in the call, and this takes time; and then, you know, the shareholders do not all pay up with al crity. They have to be reminded sometimes, and we may get only a comparatively small amount in if we made a call of only twenty-five cents, as s me shar holders, I believe, have suggest d. Still, if it is the sense of the meeting that the amount be altered from fifty cents to twenty-five cents, I have no objection, either on my own part or on behalf of the Board, to ac ept such a suggestion or such an amendment; it can easily be d ne. But I think it would be better to fix the call for the date alrea y proposed.

Mr. JOSEPH—I am quite agreeable, only I wanted to assure some of the shareholders whether or not there was a possibility of the call being postponed if we found our finances in a flourishing condition between now and January. That w s my object; I do not wish in any way to opp se the resolution or to question th decision of the directors.

The CHAIRMAN—Yes, I understand perfectly, but I don't think we can do that. It would be unwise to do it; it would be holding out rather delusive hopes. I think sooner or later the call must be made, and I don't think we can possibly defer it. Of course, we may get much better crushin s than we expect, and if we do we shall certainly not press for the call, and we s ll certainly make it for twenty five cents in that case. However, it would be much better perhaps to confer the powe to make it a fifty cent call, but if you like to propose that it be a twenty-five cent call first, I am perfectly willing to accept the ame dment.

Mr. JOSEPH—No, sir, I don't want to make any am-ndment or proposal.

The CHAIRMAN—Does any other gentleman think that would be better? The sole obj-ct of the Board is to make this call as little burdensome to the shareholders as possible. We are in fullest sympathy with the shareholders on the subject, and it is with very great regret that we have to suggest a call at all. Of course, the call is a purely voluntary one on your part, and you can say whether you decide not t make it. You m y refuse to make it, if you like, but I think it would be a great mistake.

There were no further remarks, and the CHAIRMAN then proposed the confirmation of the resolution, which was as follows:—

1. "That the Capital of the Company be increased by the creation and issue of 60,000 New Ordinary Shares of $11 each, with the sum of $10 paid up on each, and that the Directors be empowered and authorised to accept surrenders of the present 60,000 Ordinary Shares of the Company of $10 each on which the sum of $10 each has been paid up, and that one New Share of $11, with the sum of $10 paid up thereon, be given in lieu of and in exchange for each old share of $10 fully paid up, and that thereupon the said old shares be cancelled.

2. "That of the remaining $1 payable in respect of each of the New Shares, the sum of 50 cents be paid on the surrender of the old share, and that the remainder be called up (if necessary) and paid at such times and in such instalments as the Board may determine."

Mr. TERRY seconded, and the resolution was unanimously adopted.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business before the meeting, gentlemen; thank you for your attendance. A confirmatory meeting, of which due notice will be given, will be held later on.

The *London Gazette* notifies that the King has been graciously pleased to appoint Mr. D. D. Fraser to be His Majesty's Consul for the Island of Java to reside at Batavia.

The latest information concerning the new Shan troubles in Northern Siam, in the *Siam Observer* of the 1st ult., is as follows:—News from the North states that a strong detachment of troops from Muang Payao arrived at Muang Sa on the 27th ult. and was immediately attacked by a band of Shan decoits. After a short fight the Shans fled leaving several dead and captured. The troops pursued the decoits right up to Tafa where the Shans dispersed in every direction. There were no casualties on the Siamese side and the troops have now occupied Tafa.

CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE CO., LD.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders of the above Company at the thirty-sixth ordinary meeting, to be held on the 25th inst., at noon.

The directors have now to lay before the shareholders the accompanying statement of accounts for the year ended 3 th Ap il last:—

The net premia amount to $1,454,770 53, and the working account shows a balance at credit of $539,669 09, which sum the directors recommend be appropriated in the following manner:—

A dividend of 16 per cent. to shareholders ($4 per share)...	$96,000.00
A dividend of 15 per cent. on contributions, payable to all contributors of business whether shareholders or not	15,000.00
To underwriting suspense account	100,000.00
Balance forward to new account ...	328,669.09
	$539,669.09

DIRECTORS.

Mr. Witkowski and Hon. J. Thurburn retired from the Board during the year; Messrs. E. Goetz and Evan Ormiston accepted invitations from the directors to fill the vacancies, and their appointment will be submitted for the confirmation of shareholders.

Messrs. Schubart and Ormiston retire by rotation and offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs T. Arnold and H. U. Jeffries, who offer themselves for re-election.

H. SCHUBART,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 11th November, 1902.

The accounts are as follows:—

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS
For the year ending 30th April, 1902.

ASSETS.		$ c.
Cash in hand		81,69.66
Fixed deposits with banks ...		375,000.00
Invested in mortgages of properties:		
In Hongkong	$620,000.00	
In Shanghai	112,739.71	
In Melbourne	3,000.00	
		735,739.71
Bonds of Chinese Imperial Government loan, 1886, 129 bonds at Tls. 250 Tls. 32,250		41,767.89
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ld., debentures		150,000.00
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld., debentures		5,479.45
London branch:—		
Cash in hand	$46,982 75	
Indian Government securities	364,726.25	
Consols	49,250.00	
Fixed deposits with banks	380,000.00	
		841,959.00
Australian branches:—		
Cash in hand, in course of collection, and on fixed deposit		168,056.27
Shanghai branch:		
Cash in hand, in course of collection, and on fixed deposit		74,063.93
Yokohama branch:		
Cash in hand, in course of collection, and on fixed deposit		21,549.59
Interest accrued, but not yet payable		7,479.00
Furniture at head office and branches		4,986 56
Sundry debtors		42,606 17
		$2,548,628.23

LIABILITIES.		$ c.
Capital subscribed ...	$2,000,000 00	
Paid up $25 on 24,000 shares		600,000.00
Reserve fund		900,000.00
Dividends outstanding		24,764.07
Exchange fluctuation account		151,992.40
Reinsurance fund:—		
Amount set aside out of premium on lines in excess of normal limits		300,741.72
Sundry creditors		31,961.95
Balance of working account		539,669.09
		$2,548,628 23

WORKING ACCOUNT.

		$ c.
To losses		1,077,596.98
To charges, survey fees, &c.		223,492 10
To directors' and auditors' fees at head office and branches		18,470.00
To balance to be appropriated as follows:—		
Dividend of 16 per cent. on 24,000 shares	$96,000.00	
Dividend on contributions 15 per cent.	125,000	
To underwriting suspense account	100,000 00	
Forward to new account ...	218,669 09	
		539,669.09
		$1,859,228 17

By premia, less re-insurances, return premia, and commissions	$ c. 1,454,770,53
By interest	110,503.25
By transfer fees	149,32
By amount brought forward from last year	293,305. 7
	$1,859,228.17

RESERVE FUND.

To balance on 30th September, 1902	$900,000.00
By balance on 30th September, 1901	900,000.00

SUPREME COURT.

Wednesday, 12th November.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR W. MEIGH GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

THE WAH HING SILVER MINING CO., LD.

In the matter of the Wah Hing Silver Mining Co., Ld., and the Companies Ordinances 1865 to 1899,

Mr. T. Morgan Phillips, barrister-at-law, (instructed by Mr. H. W. Looker, solicitor), appeared in support of a petition for the winding-up of the Company. It was the petition, he said, of Wong Chi Tong, a judgment creditor, and he also appeared for the other creditors who desired the Company to be wound up. Judgment had been obtained some months ago by Wong Chi Tong and execution was issued, but the claim was not satisfied. In these circumstances the unsatisfied creditor was entitled to a winding-up order. The necessary advertisements had been issued, and the learned Registrar was satisfied as to that.

His Lordship asked if there was no appearance on the other side?

Mr. Morgan Phillips said that on the previous day Mr. Looker had had notice from Mr. Holmes, solicitor, that certain creditors of the Company intended to appear upon the hearing. No one had appeared. He should state to his Lordship that certain overtures had been made for a settlement but these had not come to any head whatever. There were creditors the Company's indebtedness to whom amounted to upwards of $28,000. He would ask that Mr. A. R. Lowe be appointed liquidater in this winding-up. The Court could make that order at any time.

His Lordship pointed out that the summons to proceed farther had to be taken out ten days after the order for winding-up had been issued. It would be sufficient just now to make that order.

Mr. Morgan Phillips—Very well, your Lordship.

His Lordship—This is a petition by one Wong Chi Tong, a mining engineer, for the winding-up of the Wah Hing Silver Mining Company, Limited, on the ground that the Company is unable to pay its debts. It appears that the petitioner brought an action against the Company for services rendered and last February obtained judgment for $1,300 or $1,400. The execution was of little avail to the petitioner as the assets available were not nearly sufficient to satisfy the judgment. Meetings have since been held, and the majority of the shareholders appear to wish that the Company should be wound up by the Court under the provisions of the local Companies Ordinances, 1865 to 1889. The necessary preliminary advertisements appear to have been duly inserted and the necessary formalities observed, and therefore I will make the order for winding-up.

The Yokohama Waterworks' 6 per cent. loan of 9000 0 0 yen taken by Messrs Samuel Samuel & Co at 90 was placed by them in London at an average price of 102.

The *Globe* writes:—We cannot help thinking it regrettable that the Archbishop of Canterbury should have committed himself to so violent a denunciation of the Chinese opium trade as that in which he indulged yesterday. Doubtless his Grace spoke as a private citizen and not as Primate of the Church; but his words will be quoted far and wide by fanatics who will no more realise this than they do the fact that to suppress the trade would inflict great suffering upon our Indian fellow-subjects, without diminishing at all the amount of opium consumed in China.

ENQUIRY INTO COLLAPSES OF HOUSES.

KOWLOON CITY ROAD.

The enquiry into the fatal collapses of houses in Kowloon City Road on 18th July last was resumed on the afternoon of the 7th inst. before Mr. F. A. Hazeland. Mr. H. L Dennys, Acting Crown Solicitor, appeared on behalf of the Government, while Mr. H. W. Looker represented the architects, Messrs. Leigh & Orange, and Mr. C. D. Wilkinson the contractors, the Loong Cheong firm.

H. P. Tooker, executive engineer, P.W.D., was examined. He recounted the circumstance of the collapse on 18th July last, and said that the fallen wall had been rebuilt; it was not, however, in plumb, the lower seven feet—that was, seven feet above the ground—being 1¼ inches out of the straight. The back wall of the same block was also out of plumb Witness had not plumbed the south wall of the block, but this wall had been pulled down and was being rebuilt. The south wall of house No. 32, the greater portion of which fell down on 18th July, was also rebuilt and had been plumbed. Some time in May last witness's attention was called to the north wall on block I.I 8, which was then shored up and being rebuilt. On 19th July he inspected the houses, and looked at the brick and mortar *débris*. The bricks he found to be hard, but some were more or less soaked by the rain which had come down immediately after the collapse. There was nothing however, to lead him to suppose from what he saw that day, that the bricks or mortar had been wet or soddened before the collapse, nor did he see any bricks so soft that they could be bent in the hand. As far as witness could judge, the position of the ground floor wall of No. 30 was the same then as it was to-day, but he did not notice then that that wall was out of plumb. The ways in which the collapse of the wall of No. 3 might have occurred were—(1) crushing of the bricks, caused by bad or soft bricks; (2) the bonding might have been bad; (3) the mortar might have been bad causing the bricks to slide and giving them no cohesion; (4) the wall might have been built out of plumb to such an extent as to cause it to totter; (5) there might have been a subsidence in the foundations; (6) there might have been an extraordinary force, such as a heavy wind in a typhoon; and (7) there might have been a combination of any or all of these reasons, which were based on the assumption that the wall of No 30 was not knocked down by that of No. 32. Witness was of opinion that the immediate cause of the collapse was the force of the wind, but he could not say whether that force was applied outside or inside the house. If the houses had been in perfect condition at the time of the collapse he thought that the wind ought not to have knocked them down; he also thought that the reason they were knocked down by the wind was that there was a subsidence of the foundations. The fact of the north and west walls on Lot 1,107 being out of plumb agreed with the theory that such a subsidence had taken place. The sites for the two blocks of houses were cut out from the hillside, on the western side of Kowloon City Road, and the effect of this was to cause the hill at the back of the houses to slope towards the buildings, which, from personal observation, witness knew caused the water due to the heavy rains to pour from the hillside into the sites; furthermore, he observed the water lying in pools immediately at the back of the houses, and he knew that the subsoil water was close to the surface. From what he saw, witness concluded that the north wall on Lot 1,108 sank before it was reconstructed, and since it had been rebuilt he believed the foundations had sunk again: this opinion was formed from the way the wall was cracked. No special precautions, so far as he was aware, were taken, with reference to these two blocks, to prevent the foundations from subsiding in consequence of the moist nature of the ground; he thought that precautions ought to have been taken to prevent the heavy flow of water from the hillside on to the sites. This might have been done by digging a catch-water on the side of the hill, or by otherwise draining the water away.

By Mr. Looker—Witness was of opinion that the wall of No. 30 was not out of plumb at the time the Government gave their certificate. A wall was not necessarily dangerous because it was 1¼ inches out of plumb. The wall in question was at present out of plumb, but he did not consider that for that reason it was dangerous. It was the same in the case of the back wall on Lot 1,107—it was not necessarily dangerous because it was a little out of plumb, nor was the north wall on the same lot as it now stood. Witness, however, would not grant a certificate for it in its present condition, because it had not been completed in accordance with the deposited plans for rebuilding it; the wall was now being completed in accordance with those plans, and when that was done he would not consider any further action necessary. There was probably a subsidence of the foundations of No. 30 between the date of the granting of the certificate and the collapse. Witness had not noticed any subsidence of the foundations under the the verandah pieces, where the pressure would probably be greatest. He had not seen the foundations himself, and he had not the slightest reason for doubting Mr. Leigh's statement that they were perfectly good. His opinion was that the subsidence was caused by the accumulation of water owing to the heavy rains, and the suggested precautions for diverting the water should have been taken in the interests of the people living in the houses. It was the duty of the Government to have concreted the lane at the back of the two blocks and to construct water-channels thereon; this had partly been done, and at the time of the collapse the channelling had all been completed, as well as the concreting of the passage-way between the two blocks. None of the surface concreting had been done at the back of the two blocks at the time of the collapse, and it was not yet done. Witness believed it was the case that some months before the time of the collapse Leigh & Orange wrote to the P. W. D. and asked that the concreting be proceeded with. The concreting of the lane at the back and of that in the middle, supposing it had been done some months before the collapse, would not have prevented the flow of water that witness referred to: concreting was merely a sanitary precaution. It was not the duty of the Government as much as anybody else to take measures to prevent the flow of water from the hillside; a catch-water similar to one the architects had made behind the block of houses on Lot 1,108 should have been constructed. Witness did not know how that catch water came to be constructed, and he was not aware if a catchwater precisely similar to the one he suggested was placed by the Government at the back of Hunghom Inland Lots 222 and 223

The hearing was adjourned till Wednesday afternoon at 2.15.

On the 12th inst. Mr. H. P. Tooker again went into the witness-box and completed the evidence begun by him on the last occasion of the enquiry.

By Mr. Wilkinson—Witness was of opinion that the immediate cause of the collapse was the typhoon and the main cause the subsidence of the foundations, consequent on the heavy flow of water. If the upper part of a wall had a tendency outwards, it was probable that the lower part would also be dragged forward, and that might explain why the remaining portion of the collapsed wall at No. 30 was out of plumb. Witness was satisfied as to the quality of the material used; in his opinion it was good.

By Mr. Dennys—The wall through which one of the tie-rods had been pulled was eighteen inches thick, but the fact of its being so pulled through did not necessarily show that the brickwork was particularly wet.

Hon. W. Chatham, Director of Public Works, was the next witness. After stating when his attention was first especially directed to the two houses, Nos 30 and 32, which was on 19th July, the day following the collapse, he said that special allusion was made in the local Buildings Ordinance to walls exceeding 35 feet in length: that Ordinance made provision for increasing the thickness of walls in consideration of their being of extra length, and this would bring the local law rather in excess of the law of England. The reasons for its being in excess were because the workmanship was not so good here, the weather was very trying and in many cases the materials were inferior. On 19th July, Mr. Chatham continued, he had a good look round, and the work appeared to be very fair. The bricks were good, and he saw nothing to complain of. His opinion was that the cause of the collapse was insufficiency of strength in a wall of such large area although the wall was built in accordance with the requirements of the Ordinance The fact of its length being over 35 feet was not specially brought before him, but had it been he did not think he would have objected. As to the cause of the collapse, witness explained, he would like also to mention the vibration set up by a heavy storm. He did not agree with Mr. Leigh when he said—"To my mind the collapse of this wall was chiefly attributable to the disintegration of the brick-work by the wet." Witness had also seen 45, Praya East, and he also disagreed with Mr. Leigh's theory in the case of that house, namely, that the collapse was due to the squeezing up of the mortar in the wall through wet. In the case of certain houses examined by witness which had suffered from wind and rain, the walls had bulged, which was contrary to Mr. Leigh's theory as to the squeezing up of the mortar. If a house in Hongkong had been properly built, and had had half an inch of plaster covering the external wall, the rain should not have so soddened the plaster and softened the brickwork as to cause the wall to collapse, unless the storm was very abnormal. He had never known such a thing happen in Hongkong. The buildings completed in the Colony between May, 1901, and May, 1902, both inclusive, amounted to 914, and of the houses mentioned in the official list of collapses, the following were completed between 1st June, 1901, and 18th July, 1902:—Nos. 30 and 32, Kowloon City Road and Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9, Lo Lung Hang, Hunghom. The great majority of the houses mentioned in that list were old village houses, probably built by the villagers themselves without any architects, and a large number were houses actually in course of construction. Questioned as to the time in which new work should become seasoned, Mr. Chatham gave it as his opinion that it took between nine and twelve months for a wall to become dry, and if a wall was finished in February, 1901, he should say that it would be absolutely dry in February 1902. Properly speaking, a wall should be able to withstand the weather from the time the building was completed. No. 45, Praya East was finished in February, 1901, and collapsed on 2nd August this year. He did not agree, said witness, with Mr Leigh in theorising that the cause of the collapse in that case was the same as that in reference to Nos. 30 and 32, Kowloon City Road. The collapsed houses in Lo Lung Hang, Hunghom, were designed by a Chinese architect.

The enquiry was again adjourned.

On the enquiry's resumption on the 13th inst. Hon. W. Chatham again went into the witness box, and was questioned by Mr. Looker. So far as he could observe, he said, he was satisfied that the north wall of No. 30 was built in compliance with the requirements of the Building Ordinance, and he was aware that a certificate to that effect had been granted by Mr Looker. Speaking generally, witness should not say that tie-rods were better than cross-walls for holding in an external wall; cross walls gave rigidity to an external wall, as well as a certain amount of holding in. If it were simply a case of holding in, however, a tie-rod would be the proper method to adopt. Witness did not agree with Mr. Looker's theory about the flow of water from the hillside causing a subsidence of the foundations. The extraordinary number of collapses this year seemed to point to the presence of some unusual fact or element which had not hitherto existed, and undoubtedly the prolonged rainy sea on and the wind which prevailed during that season had some influence in causing those collapses. The bulging of walls in the houses in Kowlon City Road he attributed more to the wind than to the wet weather, but he had certainly known cases at the Peak where damp caused by rain had penetrated to the inside of walls.

By Mr. Wilkinson—In witness's opinion the probabilities were that but for the extraordinary character of the wind and rain this year, the collapse would not have happened.

By Mr. Dennys—Witness's house at the Peak, "Hillside," the walls of which had been penetrated by damp caused by rain, did not collapse in consequence. In England, he had seen houses standing up to the first floor in water, and yet not collapse. "Hillside" was very much more exposed to the weather than was No. 30, Kowloon City Road. Witness could not remember, since he had been in the Colony, any period which could come under the designation applied by Mr. Leigh of a "collapse period," although there had been typhoons in previous years which had brought down houses, either partially or completely. Houses, however, should be built to withstand the weather. This year the typhoons were accompanied by heavy rains, more so than in ordinary years, and as far as witness's observation went the rain came after the wind dropped. The majority of the collapses occured on 2nd August, when some ten inches of rain fell. Until this year, witness did not remember any instance of a newly-completed house collapsing during the typhoon season.

F. G. Figg, Acting Director of the Observatory, who said he had been in Hongkong for 19 years, gave evidence regarding the weather prevailing at the time of the collapse. On 18th July, at 5.45 p.m., the wind was blowing at an average rate of 54 miles an hour.

By Mr. Looker—The highest average velocity on the 18th was registered between 9.30 p.m. and 10.30 p.m., and was 61 miles per hour. The 54 miles mentioned as having been registered between 5 and 6 p.m. represented weaker and stronger gusts; the strongest gust, from personal observation, he computed during that period at 65 miles per hour. There was a higher monthly rainfall in May this year than during the previous ten years for the month of May, and during the months of June and July this year there was a higher average hourly velocity of the wind than during the same period for the preceding ten years. Compared also with the same months during the past ten years, June this year had a slighter and July a greater average rainfall. From the 8th of May this year till the 12th of August, both dates inclusive, the rainfall was 79.95—80 inches roughly; this witness should not call exceptional. The total sunshine for those three months was —May, 121 hours; June, 85, and July, 159.

By a juror—Fifty-four miles an hour witness would not call typhoon force, or even 65 miles. In the first case it was barely a strong gale, and in the second a whole gale.

F. Browne, Government Analyst, said that on 3rd October he received from Mr. Dennys two pieces of lime mortar. He analysed them, and found that they were both bad mortar. One piece was bad because there was not enough lime and because the lime used contained a large proportion of lime carbonate, which weakened mortar. In all mortar a certain amount of lime carbonate was formed naturally, but to the extent of not more than 2 per cent. In the pieces of mortar under notice the lime carbonate in one was 4.63 and in the other 9.43; in both samples witness would not allow for more than 2 per cent. being formed naturally. The second sample of mortar was bad because it contained too much lime carbonate; both samples were deficient in freshly-burnt lime. Witness had submerged a piece of good red earth mortar in water for three weeks, and found that it did not soften materially. Good sand mortar did not stand the same test. In the *Pharmaceutical Journal* of 15th September witness had published a paper on "Chinese Red Earth," and in that paper he said—"Such red earth, when used instead of sand for mixing with lime, forms a strong and durable mortar."

The hearing was adjourned.

It is reported from Peking, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, that a telegram from Nanning, Kwangsi, sent by Governor Wang Chih-ch'un, was received on the 30th ultimo by the Grand Council, announcing that a Taotai who was captured by the rebels and held to ransom was murdered by them on learning that the Government had refused to pay the money demanded. Upon this Marshal Su led a large force against the rebels, but was badly defeated by them, losing a quantity of arms and ammunition and several hundred men.

SPORTING NOTES.

(*Daily Press*, 8th November.)

To-day's match on the cricket ground will be between a Club XI and H.M.S. *Tamar*, who were rather badly beaten by the Craigengower C. C. last week at Happy Valley. In justice to the *Tamar* men, however, it must be said that they lacked two of their best men on the 1st inst., and they should be able to render a better account of themselves to-day. The Club team, which is captained by Dr. Atkinson, contains one of our new regiment in Lieut. Rimmington, S.F., and though mostly composed of junior men should be equal to the task before it.

The Club side which meets the Royal Engineers at Association football to day differs considerably from that which beat the R.W.F., "A." Co., on the 25th ult. The half-back line is entirely changed, Harrison, who played back before, being associated there with Kew and Rees, while Worcester is back in Harrison's place. Lemarchand, Cooper, and Cooke remain in the forward line and are joined by Kerr and another. —It is still too early to talk about the Football Shield, but it will be of interest to many readers to learn that the Sherwood Foresters will probably enter four teams for the competition. They have a good football reputation in other climes, and those who have seen them at pactice here think favourably of their chances. Whether they will prove as successful as our energetic Fusiliers in the past remains to be seen.

The destination of the first prize in the Interport Rifle Match should be known by the end of another week, unless Penang is going to create a surprise. Singapore, as readers of this paper are aware, has already put in a total of 893, 9 better than the 884 which enabled our Southern neighbours to take second place last year. Lieut. Elliott tied for first place with 95 although during the previous week he made 102 in practise, only 2 less than Mr. D. Baldwin's magnificent record of 104 here. The five top Singapore men were remarkably level, only 3 points separating Morrison, the fifth man, from Elliot and Rahim, bracketed first. The Hongkong team is to be selected from the 16 men who have been requested to attend at the Range to-day, that is to say, from the team which shot in the Imperial Rifle Match on the 29th October with the addition of Messrs. Crocker, Jeffery, Davies, Parker, Marshall, Andrew, and West, and without Messrs. Penning and McEwen. The very poor total of 825 which was compiled on the 29th ult. will have to be much improved on if Hongkong is to have any chance of adding to its list of nine victories in twelve contests. Shanghai will fire off on the 15th inst. and their team will probably be selected from the following:—Corporal Dumfries, "A" Co., Private Moore, "A" Co.; Corporal Brand, "A" Co., Trooper Aldrige, Light Horse, Gunner Richards, Artillery; Mr. Watson, Caldbeck, Macgregor, & Co.; Private G. Peace, "B" Co.; Private C. Bill, "B" Co.; Sergt. McDowell, "B" Co., Inspector Wilson, Inspector Collins, Inspector Dewing, Sergt. Macdonald, Sergt. Lynch.

The Doubles in the Wigwam lawn-tennis tournament have resulted in a victory for Mau and Edwards (owe 30), who defeated Yeats and Trimmingham (owe 30) in the final round by 3 setts to love.

The success of the three days' racing at Shanghai was undoubtedly Mr. King's *Amphion*, which took first place in the Lottery Stakes on Tuesday, the Shanghai Stakes on Wednesday and the Champions on Thursday. In the last race *Amphion's* time was only 2.5 second worse than the Shanghai record for 1¼ mile. Mr. Duplex's *The Dealer*, however, had a fine list of prizes, comprising firsts in the Northern Cup and Siccawei Plate, seconds in the Criterion Stakes and Autumn Cup, and a third in the Champions. Mr. H. Bush's *Algerine* won the Criterion and Racing Stakes and was second in the Champions. Mr. Donnachie's *Red Dawn* won the Whangpoo Stakes and Race Club Cup; Mr. Barley's *His Highness*, the Shanghai Gold Cup and St. Leger; Mr. Bruce Robertson's *Grandee*, the Pagoda and Autumn Cups. Mr. G. H. Potts's brown pony *Pandur* after two thirds, in the Llama Mian and Lottery Stakes, brought off a win in the Pari Mutuel Cup on the last day, while his *Rebel King* and *Desert King* secured a third prize apiece. Mr. Buxey with his *Rare Rose* won the Llama Mian Stakes and came second in the Lottery Stakes. Mr. John Peel's *Set* by winning the Flyaway Plate in the record time for seven furlongs of 1.48, as well as coming in third in the Criterion Stakes and second in the Northern Cup, showed what a good pony he still is. In the Criterion Stakes he was beaten by two of the fliers of the meeting, *Algerine* and *The Dealer*.

(*Daily Press*, 15th November.)

The lamentable failure last Saturday of the Club "A" team before the bowling of H.M.S. *Tamar*, strengthened from the side which lost to the Craigengower C.C. on the previous Saturday by the very important addition of Messrs. Carter and Greenstock, seems to have but one explanation, and that is that the Club batsmen were poor. An innings that only took 16 overs from the opposing bowlers to finish is inglorious except on an absolutely ruined wicket, and that the Cricket Ground wicket was not on the 8th inst. The *Tamar* bowlers were good, it is true, Carter and Greenstock in particular; and perhaps Greenstock is the better of the two, though Carter secured the superior analysis. The bowling of Lamble (who plays to-day for the new Civil Service Club v. the Craigengower C. C.) was a redeeming feature of the match from the Club's point of view, and Lamble should certainly be watched with an eye to the future.

The Association section of the H.K.F.C. is resting again, the Shield ties being still far distant. The six-a-side competition this year has been a noted success and though Wolfe's team won all its games except the first game with Rutherford's team, which was a draw, yet Rutherford's team was also unbeaten until Wednesday's match, the loss to Bennett's team being ruled out and the replayed game giving Rutherford a runaway victory. The final game was rather one-sided, Wolfe's men showing a great improvement on the scrambling form of the drawn game last month.

I had intended to speak of the Yacht Club's very successful opening a fortnight ago, but the subject is rather stale now, so I need only mention that, judging by the result of the racing, the two new boats, *Dione* and *Vernon*, will apparently have the better of *Alannah*, at any rate in a strong breeze. Of the other boats *Min* in her new rig seems much improved and I hope to see her sporting owner pull off a few wins before he leaves the Colony, as last year his chances with her were spoilt owing to the fact that he got his sails for another design from that finally decided on by the Yacht Club. The Boat Club and V.R.C. are providing the usual sailing races in their regatta for yachts, which fact no doubt will stimulate interest in yachting here. This is as it ought to be with the opportunities afforded by this excellent harbour at our very doors.

The annual general meeting of the Boat Club was held on Thursday in the Gymnasium of the Club, when a fairly good number of members was present. A distinctly satisfactory balance-sheet was submitted and the accounts passed at once, the officers of the Club were re-elected *en bloc*, and a general committee and balloting committee retained almost *in statu quo ante*. So smoothly was the business conducted that within half an hour a vote of thanks was passed to the Hon. F. H. May who presided and the meeting broke up and formed itself into various unofficial sub-committees in the bar. The club premises are exceptionally well attended just now, in view of the approaching regatta; indeed the resources of the Club in the matter of boats are put to a considerable strain. So many men are available that the entries for many of the different events will probably be unprecedented in the Colony, *e.g.*, the Ladies' Purse, which looks like starting eight boats. Anent the general meeting it was noted with pleasure that the Hon. Secretary has created a precedent by attending in evening dress; on this particular occasion, however, this was somewhat counteracted by the appearance of certain members in boating

costumes of—well, workmanlike appearance, and so some of the tone was lost, but it is to be hoped that the Hon. Secretary will not be discouraged and that the precedent will be adhered to.

The Polo Committee, I hear, are much perturbed in mind about the very slack attendance of playing members just lately, but hope that this state of affairs won't last. The ground was never in such good playing form as it is just now, so it is a pity more of the many men who own animals that could play if a little trouble were taken with them do not join in and begin, for having once started I am sure they would be the keenest supporters of Polo.

The Interport Rifle Match is over and for the third time in the history of the match Hongkong takes third place, the previous occasions being in 1889 and 1895. Hongkong, as my readers know, could only put together 875 on Wednesday, 26 less than last year, although the nine of the team who took part in the practice shoot last Saturday totalled 837, an average of 93 a man. Hongkong only made four scores between 90 and 100, while Mr. Stackwood seemed absolutely off colour at every distance. Mr. Parkes's 97 was a consistent exhibition, made up of 32 at 200, 32 at 500, and 33 at 600 yds. Hongkong has now 9 wins, Shanghai 2, and Singapore 2, in 13 matches. Shanghai's expectations of rendering a good account of itself against the Southern ports have been realised and the team is to be congratulated upon a fine performance. Their previous win was in 1889, the first year of the competition. Singapore has added 9 points to its last year's total and Penang 60—a striking advance, which yet leaves them a long way last.

The Haskell ball has made its appearance on the Happy Valley golf links and last week an American visitor with its aid tried conclusions with our local champion. Mr. Forrest, however, successfully upheld his reputation. The visitor, however, played a round of 38 with borrowed club—no small feat. There are other Haskells about, it is said.

OMPAX.

INTERPORT RIFLE SHOOTING MATCH.

VICTORY OF SHANGHAI.

The team chosen to represent Hongkong in the Interport Rifle Shooting Match shot off on the 12th inst. at Kowloon Range. Shooting began at 2.30 p.m. under conditions which were by no means favourable from a marksman's point of view and which got worse rather than better as the men went back. It was cloudy overhead and the light was poor though steady. Some rain fell. When the cards were returned it was found that the total score reached only 875, being 26 less than the score registered by the Hongkong team last year and 18 less than the score made by the Singapore team in the present match. Mr. J. Parkes took first honours with a total of 97. The arrangements in connection with the match were carried out by Mr. Mowbray S. Northcote. Appended are the detailed scores :—

	200	500	600	Tl.
Mr. J. Parkes—				
	5445545—32	5345555—32	5545554—33	97
Mr. J. E. Crocker—				
	5455554—33	4555545—33	3453545—29	95
Serg.-Inst. Davies, R.M.L.I.—				
	3445455—30	5555545—34	3354544—28	92
Mr. D. Baldwin—				
	5545454—32	2255525—26	3555455—32	90
Mr. R. Stewart—				
	5542555—31	4344554—29	3445534—28	88
Mr. C. Marshall—				
	4545555—33	5535344—29	2545234—25	87
Mr. J. Pidgeon—				
	4455454—31	5424245—26	4445434—28	85
Col.-Sergt. Cross, R.M.L.I.—				
	5454545—32	5242333—22	5555343—30	84
Mr. R. Lapsley—				
	4555444—31	5555525—32	2532233—20	83
Mr. W. Stackwood—				
	3443555—29	3335343—24	2233443—21	74
			Grand Total	875

Telegrams to hand from Shanghai and Penang give the scores of the representative teams of these two ports in the above match as 926 and 871 respectively. Shanghai thus secures first honours, Singapore comes second, Hongkong third and Penang last. The scores made by the various teams in the competition were as follows:—

Shanghai	926
Singapore	893
Hongkong	875
Penang	731

Last year the scores were—Hongkong, 901; Shanghai, 841; Penang, 721.

The following is the complete record of the matches :—

1889, Shanghai 819, Singapore 777, Hongkong 774.

1890, No match.

1891, Hongkong 867, Shanghai 830, Singapore 741.

1892, Hongkong 835, Shanghai 810, Singapore 752.

1893, Hongkong 822, Shanghai 802, Singapore 768.

1894, Hongkong 823, Singapore 817, Shanghai 760.

1895, Singapore 934, Shanghai 903, Hongkong 879.

1896, Hongkong 916, Shanghai 900, Singapore 870.

1897, Singapore 934, Hongkong 916, Shanghai 860.

1898, Hongkong 934, Singapore 923, Shanghai 893.

1899, Hongkong 952, Singapore 926, Shanghai 887.

1900, Hongkong 930, Singapore 909, Shanghai 900.

1901, Hongkong 901, Singapore 884, Shanghai 841, Penang, 721.

1902, Shanghai 926, Singapore 893, Hongkong 875, Penang 871.

From 1889 to 1894 the match was fired with the Martini-Henry rifle, from 1895 onwards with the Lee-Metford.

Hongkong has thus won nine out of thirteen matches, Singapore two, and Shanghai two.

The following were the best scores made at the practice for the Hongkong team on the 8th inst. :—

	200	500	600	H' cap.	To-tal.
R Stewart *	34	33	29	5	101
J. Pidgeon *	34	34	32	sc.	100
C. Marshall *	26	34	34	sc.	94
J. Parkes *	31	29	30	3	93
W. Stackwood	32	31	29	sc.	92
J. Andrew	30	31	26	5	92
Col.-Sergt. Cross	30	28	33	sc.	91
D. Baldwin	33	32	26	sc.	91
J. E. Crocker	28	33	29	sc.	90
Sapper MacEwen	30	33	23	3	89
Sergt. Griffiths	29	29	30	sc.	88
Sergt. Davies	29	33	23	sc.	85

* Winners of spoons.

CRICKET.

XI OF THE H.K.C.C. v. H.M.S. "TAMAR."

The Club team was far too weak for the *Tamars* in the above match, which was played on the Club ground on the 8th inst., and was badly beaten by no less than an innings and 26 runs. The *Tamars* won the toss and took the first innings. Their start, however, was anything but a good one, as the first 6 wickets fell for 24 runs and they had only scored 33 when the seventh wicket went down. This state of things was brought about by the deadly effectiveness of the bowling of Lamble, who, in his first 4 overs, took 5 wickets for 7 runs. On Greenstock joining Solfleet, however, a different complexion was put on the game, as the newcomer began hitting at once and made his 35 out of 43 added while he was in, in 12 minutes. Solfleet found a useful partner also in Butt, and eventually the score was taken to 124. After his sensational opening, Lamble met with no further success, and his analysis at the end of the innings was 5 wickets for 42. There seemed to be no reason why the Club team should not make the necessary 124 runs, but, it may be said at once, they never looked like doing it; indeed, the less said about their performance the better, for seldom has such a miserable exhibition of batting been seen on the Club ground. A shocking start was made when Hill was bowled by a full pitch before he had scored, and the side never recovered from it and followed one another in dismal procession to and from the wicket. A paltry 26 runs was the result of their first innings, and of course they had to follow on. Their second attempt was a little more creditable than the first, but they were all out for a poor total of 72 and so retired beaten, as stated above, by an innings and 26 runs. Carter bowled with great success in the Club's first innings, taking 6 wickets for 6 runs, and Butt was the most successful bowler in the second innings. The *Tamar's* fielding was good as a whole, but the Club did not show much better form in this department of the game than they did in batting. The following are the scores and analyses :—

H.M.S. "TAMAR."

Lt. H. Stansbury, R.N., c and b Heron ..	2
Rev E. H. Good, R.N., b Lamble	0
Mr. R. H. Carter, R.N., b Lamble	6
Dr. L. F. Dartnell, R.N., b Lamble	5
Mr. C. A. Parker, R.N., b b Lamble	0
Lt. A. P. Solfleet, R.N., c Hill, b Rimington	39
Mr. Boggan, R.N., c Hill, b Lamble	0
Mr. E. S. Silk, R.N., c Gray, b Hill	1
Lt. A. Greenstock, R.N.R., l.b.w. Hill ...	35
Lt. A. C. Butt, R.M.L.I., b Rimington ...	28
Mr. F. H. P. Williams, R.N., not out ...	1
Extras	7
Total	124

H.K.C.C.

First Innings.		Second Innings.	
Lt. Hill, R.W.F., b Carter	0	absent.	
Lt. Gwyther, R.W.F., b Greenstock	8	b Greenstock	16
Lt. Rimington, S.F., c Good, b Carter	6	c Parker, b Good ...	11
P. T. Lamble, c Boggan, b Carter	0	c Carter, b Butt ...	3
Major Le Breton Simmons, run out	0	c Dartnell, b Butt	0
T. C. Gray, c and b Carter	4	c Parker, b Good ...	2
P. W. Goldring, b Greenstock	0	b Carter	22
J. M. Atkinson, c Dartnell, b Greenstock	3	c Boggan, b Butt ...	6
G. A. Woodcock, b Carter	0	b Butt	0
G. O. Heron, not out	0	c Dartnell, b Good	8
G. Moule, c Parker, b Carter	0	not out.....	0
Extras	5	Extras	4
Total	26	Total.....	72

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

H.M.S. "TAMAR."

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Lamble	11	1	42	5
Heron	3	—	14	1
Hill	10	—	55	2
Rimington	4 1	—	6	2

H.K.C.C.

	First Innings.				Second Innings.			
	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Carter	8.1	4	6	6	2	1	7	1
Greenstock	8	3	15	3	2.2	—	2	1
Butt	—	--	—	--	8	—	26	4
Good	—	--	—	—	8	—	33	3

CRAIGENGOWER CRICKET CLUB v. ARMY ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

The cricket match between the above was played at the Happy Valley on the 8th inst. and ended in a win for the Craigengower Cricket Club by 80 runs. The following are the scores :—

CRAIGENGOWER CRICKET CLUB.

M. E. Asger, c Rutter, b MacGibbon	19
J. P. Jordan, b Skinner	5
A. O. Brawn, b MacGibbon	4
R. Pestonji, run out	3
R. Basa, b MacGibbon	36
E. R. Herton, c Rutter, b MacGibbon ...	4
M. H. Harteam, c Burgess, b Lilywhite ..	0
J. D. Kinniard, b Rutter	13
J. L. tuart, b Skinner	5
L. E. Lammert, c Lashbrook, b Skinner ..	6
L. A. Rose, not out	1
Extras	20
Total	116

ARMY ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

Woolley, l.b.w., b Brawn	9
Lilywhite, b Brawn	1
Skinner, not out.....	15
MacGibbon, b Pestonji	1
Moore, b Brawn	1
Broady, c Stuart, b Brawn	0
Farmer, run out	1
Burgess, b Brawn.....	0
Duff, run out.....	4
Lashbrook, c Brawn, b Pestonji	1
Rutter, absent	
Extras	3
Total	36

BOWLING ANALYSES.

CRAIGENGOWER CRICKET CLUB.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Skinner	11.1	3	24	4
MacGibbon	13	2	38	3
Rutter	7	—	19	1
Lilywhite	4	-	15	1

ARMY ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Brawn	9	1	15	5
Pestonji	7.2	1	12	2
Harteam	1	—	6	—

FOOTBALL.

H.K.F.G. *v.* R.E.

This match was played at Happy Valley on the 8th inst., in fair weather and before a sparse attendance of spectators.- Teams :—

Club—Hickling, goal; Worcester and Bonnar, backs; Harrison, Kew, and Rees, halves; Lemarchand, Kerr, Cooper, Cooke, and Libeaud, forwards.

Engineers—Goal, Widdows; backs, Bowyer and Thornhill; halves, Gaskell, Steedman, and Bingay; forwards, Hemmings, Rutter, Morecambe, Cooper, and Hooley.

Referee—Mr. F. Browne.

The game was a very poor one, the Club having all the advantage. The ground men kicked off, and five minutes from the start registered their first goal, through Cooper, who just previously missed a fine opening. There was nothing further of moment during the remainder of the first half, nor, indeed, for the rest of the game, except the two additional goals scored after the interval for the Club by Cooper and Libeaud. Hickling had an easy job, and played the part of spectator most of the time. It was the Engineers' first match of the season, and therefore one must not be too hard on them. At the same time, however, they will have to acquire some form, and that quickly, if they intend to make any serious show in future matches. They appeared to have no backbone on Saturday, and left the playing of the game to their custodian, Widdows, who kept down the Club's score appreciably. The ground men were themselves in poor form, excepting in a very few cases, and with better opponents would have deserved to lose. Perhaps, however, they did not feel called upon to make any display; certainly the play of the Engineers did not provide an inducement.

Result—Club, 3; Engineers, 0.

HOCKEY.

CLUB *v.* H.M.S. "ALBION."

The Club gave rather a disappointing exhibition against the *Albion* on the 13th inst. when they were beaten by 3 goals to 1. Perhaps the fact that Teats turned up 20 minutes late accounted partly for this, as the first 2 goals for the *Albion* were scored in the first quarter of an hour. Murphy again had the work of two men to perform for some time, and acquitted himself very well. Parker in goal saved splendidly, and it was largely owing to his good judgment in clearing that the Club had only 3 goals notched against them, as they were pressed hard all the time. Hooper played a grand game for his side, his goal, the only one for the Club, being the shot of the game. Thornhill also played well, and his shouted admonitions to the rest of the side were cheering if occasionally interlarded with weird epithets. Tulloch at half played a very sound game. Of the *Albions*, perhaps Boyle, Raymond, and Salkeld were the best of a very even lot, though their forward line was particularly strong.

Mr. T. C. Gray was the referee for both sides.

The *L. and C. Express* of the 10th ult. says:—The *Morning Post* is responsible for the statement that the 1st Chinese Regiment at Weihaiwei is not after all to be disbanded. Whether Weihaiwei will be retained as a military station does not appear to have been decided on, but it is quite certain that for the present the disbandment of the Chinese Regiment has been postponed. We most sincerely trust, as we have frequently written, that the regiment which has done so well during its brief career, will be retained, and that the decision of the Government to disband it is being revised—in the way that its existence will be prolonged.

SHANGHAI RACES.

The following was the result of the principal race on the 8th inst., the off-day of the Shanghai Autumn Meeting:—

THE GRAND NATIONAL STEEPLECHASE.—Value Tls. 250. Second pony, Tls. 75. If five or more starters, third pony, Tls. 50. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Non-winners of this race at any previous Meeting allowed 7 lbs. Entrance, Tls. 5. Twice round.

Mr. Robson's *Bonaventure* (Mr. Alderton) 11st. 11lb 1
Mr. Robson's *Corbie* (Mr. Zahn) 10st. 8lbs. 2
Mr. Twovee's *Sobraon* (Mr. Massey) 10st 11lbs. 3
Mr. Witz's *Shannon* (Mr. Witzleben) 10st. 11lbs. 0
Mr. Carlill's *Loot* (Mr. Reid) 10st. 12lb. ... 0
Mr. Criterion's *Satan* (Mr. A. Crighton) 10st. 11lb. 0
Mr. R. J. Marshall's *Innocence* (Owner) 10st. 10lbs. 0

Satan, *Innocence*, and *Shannon* jumped off with the lead. *Loot*, however, soon overtook them, but unseated his rider who pluckily remounted firmly, but too late to compete in the race. The contest then virtually lay between *Corbie*, *Bonaventure* and *Sobraon* and *Bonaventure* won in the final rush. *Corbie* second and *Sobraon* third. *Satan* also threw his rider.

NEW LINER FOR THE FAR EAST.

E. AND A. S.S. "EMPIRE."

The Eastern and Australian Steamship Co.'s new steamer *Empire*, built for the passenger and freight trade between Australia, China and Japan, has been successfully launched and will at no distant date be put on the regular service. The *Empire* will also be a mail carrier. She was built by Messrs. Wm. Beardmore & Co., Ld., Govan, Glasgow. Her trial trip exceeded the expectations of the builders and the owners as well.

The following are the dimensions of the new boat:—Length, 400 ft.; breadth, 46 ft. 6 in.; depth, 30 ft. 2 in. and 4,500 gross tonnage; with a top-gallant forecastle, long bridge, full poop, and a shade deck amidships. The hull is built of steel to Lloyd's highest class under special survey, and completed in accordance with the Board of Trade regulations for passenger steamers. The upper decks and fittings are of teak, and the most modern appliances have been supplied for the efficient working of the ship and the rapid handling of cargo; including a very complete installation of electric lighting, with double dynamos, and a large refrigerating plant, with insulated chambers for the carriage of meat, &c., to suit the Eastern trade. Luxurious accommodation has been provided before the machinery for the first-class passengers, and as the steamer is intended to trade in tropical climates, the exceptionally large staterooms have been placed on the upper deck, which admits of perfect ventilation, and they are furnished with the most up-to-date improvements for the comfort of the passengers.

Above on the bridge deck, are a spacious dining saloon and music-room *en suite*, and a comfortable smoking-room, all with large square windows, which give abundance of light, while overhead the shade deck (on which the boats are stowed) forms an admirable shelter from sun and rain to the splendid promenade on the bridge deck reserved for the first-class passengers. Very superior accommodation has been supplied on the poop for second-class passengers (which is scarcely inferior to that for the first and includes a commodious dining-room, capital smoking-room, large state-rooms, bath-rooms, &c.) and the 'tween decks are fitted for European and Chinese emigrants. The machinery consists of a set of triple-expansion engines, having cylinders 23 in., 47 in. and 78 in. diameter, by 51 in. stroke, with two double-ended boilers for a working pressure of 200 lb., and fitted with the most recent improvements for efficiency and economy, including Howden's forced draught, bronze propeller blades, &c. Having been designed with a cut-water bow and figurehead, the *Empire* has a very symmetrical appearance, and is altogether a splendid specimen of a first-class merchant steamship. She has been constructed under the supervision of Captain S. G. Green, the Company's Marine Superintendent at Sydney, and Mr. Laurence Niven, their Commodore Engineer, and the vessel is commanded by Captain W. G. Macarthur.

The results of the trial were most satisfactory, a speed in excess of the contract having been easily maintained, the Company's representatives expressing themselves highly pleased with the ship and her performance.

A SERIES OF TRAGEDIES.

The death occurred in Shanghai on the morning of the 3rd inst. of Mr. Herbert Augustus Cooper, pilot of the Messageries Maritimes Company, who was well known in Hongkong as well as in Shanghai. A remarkable series of tragedies has overtaken the Cooper family, all of them men of five physique, and this last occurrence is only a chimax to what has gone before. We take the following obituary notice from the *Shanghai Mercury* of the date of Mr. H. A. Cooper's death:—Mr. Herbert Augustus Cooper, the well-known pilot of the Messageries Maritimes, succumbed this morning at his residence, No. 51, Range Road, to diphtheria. Mr. Cooper, who was only recently married, was the last of a splendid family of four brothers, the death of whom, one after the other in the very prime of their vigorous early manhood, has formed one of the most melancholy stories ever recorded in the Far East, and the most profound sympathy is felt for his young widow, and for the aged mother who alone remains to mourn the loss of her sons. The eldest was an officer of the P. and O. Company, who lost his life some years ago in a noble endeavour to save a Lascar who had fallen overboard from the steamer on which he and Mr. Cooper were serving, in the Straits of Malacca. Mr. Arthur Cooper, another brother, died a couple of years ago of a chest affection, induced by his prolonged immersion in the Whangpoo when the ill-fated *Onwo*, of which he was second officer, went down after colliding with the *Newchwang* at Woosung; and the death of the third brother, Dr. Cooper, a rising and popular young practitioner in Shanghai, is too fresh in the minds of our readers to need more than passing mention. The father of the family, we believe, was a Scotsman settled in Bombay, where he held an appointment in the P. & O. Company. Mr. Herbert Cooper was a splendid type of seaman, and will long be remembered with affection here, where every one who ever knew him inevitably became his friend and well-wisher.

HONGKONG.

A special Government notification was issued on the 12th inst. covering a letter from H.B.M.'s Consul at Manila, which stated that Manila has been declared free of the cholera, and that Mr. Harford is issuing clean bills of health.

The return of visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ended the 9th inst. gives 220 non-Chinese and 53 Chinese to the former institution, and 58 non-Chinese and 2,198 Chinese to the latter.

The transport *Wakool*, having on board that part of the Royal Welsh Fusilier Regiment proceeding to India, sailed on Tuesday for Calcutta. The vessel was to have sailed on Monday, but the presence of a typhoon in the China Sea caused that arrangement to be altered.

James Smith, an American, was fined $10 and bound over in a personal bond of $100 to keep the peace for six months for behaving in a disorderly manner on Monday evening and threatening to stab Mr. George Warren, proprietor of Warren's Circus, by whom he was employed as a ring assistant.

On the occasion of the landing of Dr. A. P. Lello, Acting Governor of Macao, at the Canton Steamboat Company's pier, about 11.30 a.m. on the 10th inst., a guard of honour was furnished by the 1st Battalion Sherwood Foresters, and a salute of 17 guns was fired by the Royal Garrison Artillery. Dr. Lello called on the Governor, Sir Henry A. Blake, and was present at the Parade at Happy Valley and the Birthday Ball at Government House.

Sir John Keane, Bart., has arrived in Hongkong, having come from Chinkiang by the Portuguese gunboat *Diu*, to take up the post of Private Secretary to H. E. the Governor, Sir Henry A. Blake. G.C.M.G.

A farewell dinner was given by Mr. J. W. Osborne in the Kowloon Hotel on the 10th inst. to Quartermaster-Sergeants Ansell and Mepham, H.K.S.B.R.A., who, with their families, are leaving for Englandby the transport *Palawan*.

Delirious, it is reported, with fever, an English gunner in the Royal Artillery threw himself over a verandah of the Garrison Hospital on the 10th inst., and was killed. He was buried in the Happy Valley on the 11th inst. afternoon with military honours.

The annual session of Justices of the Peace was held at the Magistracy on Friday afternoon for the purpose of considering applications for publican's and adjunct licences for the year 1902-1903. Mr. F. A. Hazeland presided, and the other Justices present were Messrs. F. J. Badley, B. E. Hanson, W. H. Percival, G. C. Anderson, T. H. Reid, R. H. Craig, and C. A. D. Melbourne. All the licences, twenty-five in number, were granted unanimously.

An *alfresco fête* in aid of the orphans and invalids under the care of the sisters of the Italian Convent was held on the 9th inst. in the compound of the Roman Catholic Cathedral. The place was nicely lit up by electric lights and Japenese lanterns, the moon also giving her help to make the scene a beautiful one. The bazaar started at 9 o'clock, but long before that time a large crowd of people had assembled. The band of the 33rd Burma Infantry, by kind permission of Colonel Iremonger and the officers, was in attendance, and enlivened the proceedings consid rably by an excellent programme of music. Everything tended to give the *fête* a gratifying result, and all those present spent a very pleasant evening, besides doing good to an institution in this Colony which really deserves the support of the public. The net proceeds amounted to about $2,500.

About eight o'clock on the 9th inst. a report was made to the police that a Malay woman living at 10, Square Street, near Hollywood Road, had been stabbed by her husband, also a Malay, and when the house was entered the woman, who had a terrible wound in the abdomen, was found to be dead, whilst her husband and supposed murderer was suffering from several self-inflicted wounds in the same part of the body. He had gashed himself horribly with a long-bladed knife, and had to be medically treated before being removed to the Government Civil Hospital, where he now lies in a dangerous condition. A Chinese doctor from the Tung Wa Hospital attended to the man's injuries, in answer to a call from the Central Police Station.

It is now some time since the community had an opportunity of witnessing a circus performance, and the opportunity afforded by Mr. Warren and his clever company was consequently largely responded to. The 9th inst. was the opening night, and the large marquee was simply crammed with people, and was somewhat uncomfortable in consequence. Warren's Circus, has appeared here before but it has never put on the excellent programme that is now submitted. It is really one of the best performances of its kind that has been given here for many years, and there was not a dull number or a "fill up." presented. The performing dogs, trained by "Niny" and Mdlle. Mary Rose, are alone worth the price of admission, and their tricks are many and wonderful. They have been splendidly trained and go through their performance thoroughly obediently and without a failure. Little Emily Lucifer is a very graceful and charming artist, and there is absolutely no need for her subsequent contortion acts, which are in unpleasing contrast to her earlier efforts. Miss Mary Bell appears to be able to do anything on the invisible wire, possesses a charming person, and like the fair equestrienne Mdlle. Alicia, was deservedly applauded. The children Dick and Bella Bell contribute a pretty and clever number to the programme, and in high-kicking and leg-stretching Louise and William Lucifer perform wonders. The clowns are very funny and provide much amusement. The performance is first rate, and the circus deserves to be, and indeed is, largely patronised.

At a regular meeting on the 9th inst. of the United Service Lodge of Freemasons No. 1,344, E.C., Bro. H. D. Wolf was elected Worshipful Master, Wor. Bro. H. J. Watson Treasurer, and Bro. Vanstone Tyler.

The following returns of the average amount of banknotes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during October, are certified by the managers of the respective banks:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
	$	$
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	3,229,030	1,600,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	9,609,183	5,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited	445,382	150,000
Total	$13,283,595	$6,750,000

H.E. the Governor has appointed the undermentioned as members of the Committee for the Wongneichong and Queen's Recreation Grounds in place of the two separate Committees formerly existing:—Naval representative, Surgeon W. L Martin, R.N.; Military, Captain P. F. R. Anley; Polo Club, Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G.; Golf Club, Mr. W. T. Saunders; Cricket Club, Mr. E. A. Ram; Football Club, Mr. F. Browne; Hockey Club, Mr. J. Barton; Jockey Club, Mr. A. S. Anton; and Victoria Recreation Club, Mr. W. Armstrong. New regulations for the management of the two grounds are published in the *Gazette*.

P. C. 13 James Copeland died in the Government Civil Hospital on the 8th inst. from heart disease, and was buried on the 9th inst. in the Happy Valley. The deceased joined the Police Force three years ago from the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, and was a capable constable and a hard-working fireman, liked by his comrades and valued for his services by his superiors. He was a native of Yarmouth, aged about 31, and was unmarried. The funeral was attended by Mr. F. J. Badeley, C.S.P., Captain Lyons, D.S.P., Mr. Wodehouse, A.S.P., and all available inspectors, sergeants, and constables, members of the Gaol staff, a number of men from the deceased's old company in the Fusiliers, "E" Company, and several civilians. The service was conducted by the Rev. R. F. Johnson, Chaplain of the Cathedral. The coffin, which was covered with wreaths, four of them subscribed for and sent by Chinese policemen and firemen, was borne to the grave by a relief party of twelve constables.

Our attention has been drawn to an incident which happened in the harbour on the 11th inst., and which narrowly missed ending seriously. The facts as supplied to us are as follows:—Just after the 4.15 p.m. Star Ferry launch from Hongkong for Kowloon had cleared the wharf, it was seen that the *Rosetta Maru* was steaming half-speed on a course which would take her across the bow of the ferry-boat. The practice usually followed in such cases is for the ferry-launch to go round the stern of the bigger vessel, but in the present instance the coxswain departed from the custom and kept straight ahead, probably thinking that by putting on full speed he would be able comfortably to clear the bow of the *Rosetta Maru*. The fallacy of the move was apparent when it was too late to retrieve the mistake, for the two vessels were now steering converging courses which would inevitably bring them into collision. The greatest excitement prevailed on the launch, both amongst the European and Chinese passengers, who stared in fear at the menacing shape of the approaching steamer. A useless exchange of whistles took place, and a situation that seemed hopeless was saved only by the prompt action of the *Maru*'s skipper, Captain Tate, who jammed his wheel over and turned the steamer's head away from the foolhardy launch, which, according to the statement of our informant, who was one of its passengers, cleared the bow of the steamer by no more than a couple of feet. As the crisis approached and was safely passed, not a sound was to be heard on the launch, the emotions of those on board being too intense for expression. One gentleman afterwards said that in all the seven years he had travelled on the ferry-launches he never experienced such a close shave. This of itself speaks well for the carefulness and ability of the Ferry Company's coxswains, but in the present instance there seems to be a feeling that the danger run was in a great measure the fault of the coxswain of the launch; the matter is, however, being investigated, we understand.

Mr. J. H. Kemp, Acting Police Magistrate, resumed his duties at the Police Court on Friday morning after a brief vacation.

H.E. Major-General Sir W. J. Gascoigne, K.C.M.G., arrived at Shanghai on the 7th inst to stay for a few days before proceeding hither.

As a typhoon is reported to have passed over the neighbourhood of the Paracels, little hope can be entertained that the s.s. *Phra Nang*, which went ashore there about a fortnight ago, will escape total destruction. The party which left Hongkong on the *Machew* to survey the stranded vessel is not expected back for a day or two.

On the principle that half a loaf is better than no bread, the public no doubt view with satisfaction the erection at last of a shelter on Blake Pier, though it is only of a temporary character. The shelter is of the kind generally known as a matshed. It will be welcome to the community, but at the same time it is to be hoped that its existence will not be put forward as an excuse for delaying the erection of a permanent shelter when the Colonial exchequer is able to bear the cost.

Mr. Duncan Bowie, chief officer of the river steamer *Hoi Ho*, committed suicide by drowning on the evening of the 4th inst., off Ling Ting Island. The sad incident happened at about half-past seven in the evening, a couple of hours after the *Hoi Ho* left her berth here on the trip to Canton. Captain Paxton, the master, remained on the bridge till that time, and then left Mr. Bowie in charge whilst he went below to his cabin. Just as he was entering it he heard a loud splash, and immediately went on deck to ascertain its cause. The chief officer was nowhere to be seen, and a question addressed to the Chinaman at the wheel elicited the startling information that the mate had "jumped over the side." The steamer's engines were at once reversed and a boat lowered with all despatch to search for the unfortunate man, who, however, was never seen again. He made not a sign after entering the water, and it is believed that he was struck by the propeller. The only reason given for this act of self-destruction is that the deceased was worried in his mind regarding some floating property on the West River, to which his right of possession was contested by Chinese with whom he is said to have been in partnership. Mr. Bowie, who was a native of Oban, Argyllshire, Scotland, was about 40 years of age, and unmarried. He was well known in Hongkong and on the China coast generally, having been at one time or other in the service of most of the local steamship companies. His body has not yet been recovered.

The lengthy list of fatal building collapses in the Colony has been added to by one that occurred on the 12th inst. in Wing Lok Street, near the Harbour Office, resulting in the death of two Chinese workman and the severe injury of three others, are now in who hospital. On receipt of the intelligence at the Central Police Station, a relief gang under Sergeant Garrod was despatched to the scene, and their labours resulted in the revealing of the casualties above reported. The groaning that could afterwards be distinctly heard coming from underneath the *débris* told its own significant tale, however, and showed that life still remained to be saved. The Hon. W. Chatham, Director of Public Works, and Mr. H. P. Tooker, executive engineer, were present, as were other members of the staff of the Public Works Department and Mr. A. Mackie, Chief Inspector of Police. The collapse, viewed on the spot, appeared to be that of a wall between Nos. 126 and 128, Wing Lok Street, where rebuilding operations are proceeding. Many tons of fallen material have been displaced, and the task before the rescuers was far from a light one. About an hour after the occurrence an agitated Chinese shopkeeper in the immediate vicinity told one of the Europeans present that his *foki* Iu Piu, whom he described as a boy of about 15 or 16 years of age, was under the *débris*. He had heard the poor lad's groans, he said shakingly, and his response when his name was called. Half an hour later he returned to say that Iu Piu had turned up safely, and suggested by his manner and speech that further efforts in the direction of saving life were unnecessary, now that his *foki* was all right! The other man died after removal to hospital. H.E. the Governor on Thursday visited the scene of the collapse.

Mr. H. Kirino is recognised as Acting Consul for Japan during the absence of Mr. M. Noma, and Nr. Labarca as Consul for Chile in Hongkong.

An outbreak of fire occurred on Monday night, about half-past eight, on the steamer *Woosung* (Messrs. Butterfield & Swire), which arrived on the previous day from Shanghai. The fire originated amongst some bales of cotton, but it was seen in time and attacked by the officers and crew, who threw the burning material overboard. The flames were subjugated without the assistance of the Fire Brigade, which sent a floating engine alongside. The damage was slight.

The introduction of European weighing scales into the Central Market to replace the unsatisfactory and not always reliable Chinese *ching* or weighing-stick has now been to a certain extent effected and no doubt the use of scales will become general among stall-holders in course of time. For this improvem nt credit is largely due to Mr. R. McEwen, Inspector of Markets. The scales are of an improved, simple type and are supplied by Mr. G. Girault, Queen's Road. It would be well for Europeans who have to deal with the Chinese if the use of such weights was made general throughout the Colony.

Mr. C. E. Warren, building contractor, Des Vœux Road, on the 12th inst., at the Police Court, charged a diminutive Chinese messenger-boy in his service and a bigger boy employed as a messenger by the Sanitary Board with opening a safe in the complainant's office and stealing therefrom a bank-bill of the value of $50. The theft was discovered when the complainant went to his office on the morning of the 11th inst. The safe was open, and an examination of the contents showed the extent of the robbery. He at once reported the matter at the Central Police Station, and Detective-Sergeant Watt was told off to make investigations. These resulted in the discovery of the fact that the two defendants had come across a key which opened the safe, from which they extracted the $50 note. There were other notes in the safe, but these were untouched. Mr. Warren's servant was arrested on the premises, and he gave information that led to the arrest of the other defendant, in whose possession was found all of the money, by this time changed into smaller and more convenient currency. The latter was sentenced to two months' hard labour, and his little accomplice to receive a whipping of twelve strokes and to be detained in prison for forty-eight hours.

The Austrian cruiser *Kaiser Karl VI.* left for Nanking on the 8th inst. The Portuguese gunboat *Diu* arrived from Macao on the 9th inst.

H.M.S. *Blenheim* left for Mirs Bay on the 12th inst.

On the 12th inst. the British cruiser *Espiegle* left for Singapore and the Portuguese gunboat *Diu* for Macao. On the 13th inst. the British cruiser *Argonaut* arrived from Weihaiwei.

The Austrian cruiser *Puglia* arrived on Friday from Shanghai.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Russians claim that the second-class cruiser *Novik*, now on its way to the Far East is the fastest cruiser in the world, as its speed is 26 knots.

A Northern vernacular paper states that the Foreign Ministers have demanded posthumous honours for the five reformers executed in 1900, as it is not sufficient that they have been nominally restored to office.

A private telegram was received in Shanghai on the 5th inst. from Nagasaki, stating that a large fire broke out at Fusan on Tuesday night at 11, and lasted until 5 a.m. next day; 300 houses in the Settlement were destroyed.

An Imperial decree has been issued announcing regret at receipt of news of the death of H. E. Tao Mu, late Viceroy of the Two Kwang provinces. The posthumous honour of a Junior Guardian of the Heir Apparent is granted him and also the funeral of a Viceroy. All black marks against his name are to be erased from the official records and the officials on the route are to give every help in forwarding the remains of the late Viceroy to his native city in Chekiang province. His eldest son is granted the rank of a second-class secretary of one of the Six Boards, and his eldest grandson a third-class secretaryship in one of the Six Boards.

H.M.S. *Rinaldo* will be docked at Newchwang for the coming winter.

The Japanese Foreign Department, says a Tokyo contemporary, contemplate opening Japanese Consulates at Changsha and Dalny in the forthcoming financial year.

Professor Jenks in his report on the Philippines to the U. S. Government states that while there is considerable progress among the people of the Dutch and English possessions of the Orient, nowhere is the autonomy equal to the privileges which Filipinos are now enjoying. He recommends that the government retain ownership of all realty of which title is in doubt, and that encouragement be given large investors.

A very handsome and skilfully executed brass tablet has been placed in the Roman Cathedral, Plymouth, by the officers and men of H.M.S. *Orlando*, to the memory of the late Capt. James Henry Burke, R.N., C.B., who commanded the *Orlando* three and a half years on the China Station, and served during the recent compaign. The distinguished officer was well known in Plymouth and Devonport, and was married in the R.C. Cathedral in 1878.

The *P. & T. Times* writes:—Rear-Admiral Sah has been taking effective measures to deal with the growing piracy along the southern shores of the Gulf. The Chefoo native merchants made representations to the U.S. Consul, who, as trade was being paralysed, at once transferred the matter to Peking, with the result that Admiral Sah was wired to take instant and vigorous steps to deal with the business. To us it is somewhat strange that so intelligent and active an officer did not act on his own initiative at once. The Chinese have always endorsed the theory of Roman Law, that pirates are enemies of the human race.

The servant difficulty seems pretty acute at Singapore. In a footnote to a letter the local *Free Press* writes.—The Hylam Secret Society case showed that the Society had for its objects: (1) To fight the enemies of the Society; (2) to go out and steal, giving 30 per cent of the proceeds to the Society; (3) to furnish members with maintenance if out of work, and lawyers if in trouble. Daily the police chronicle certain records of Hylam servants charged with theft and it is not to be wondered at, considering the free hand some employers give their servants and the ease with which they can dispose of stolen property.

Admiral Baron Yamamoto, Japanese Minister for the Navy, is reported to have said to a visitor that the three armoured cruisers, the *Matsushima*, *Itsukushima* and *Hashidate*, which proved themselves the best fighting vessels in the Japanese Navy during the war with China in 1894—5, were now entirely out of date compared with the present war-ships. Several of the smaller and older vessels in the Japanese fleet had already been proved to be practically useless for active service. By the proposed extension of the Navy Admiral Baron Yamamoto said he meant the replacing of old vessels by new ones. He did not consider that his scheme was worthy of such an attractive name as "the extension of the Navy in the third stage." It simply meant the substitution of new vessels of about 8,000 tons for the old ones representing 5,000 tons.

A telegram to the *Ostasiatische Lloyd*, dated Tayeh, 1st November, says:—"The newly established passenger station for the German Yangtsze steamers at Kichou, a station not far from Hankow, has been totally destroyed and plundered by the wharfingers of the other wharves. The wharfinger of the German wharf was driven into the Yangtsze but was saved." The *N.-C. Daily News* comments:—It is to be hoped that no attempt is to be made to make capital out of the reported outrage on a German wharfinger at Kichou. Kichou is a village on the north bank of the Yangtsze between Kiukiang and Hankow, some 15 miles below Cock's Head. There are no wharves or wharfingers there, and steamers only call occasionally if lights are shown, when a sampan comes off with passengers. The so-called wharfingers are all Chinese, and the whole affair is evidently nothing but a row between competing steamer touts, of which the tout for the German steamers got the worst. It is unfortunate that such an exaggerated report should be promulgated just at the present conjuncture.

The Empress Dowager is hastening the work on the Imperial Palace at Paotingfu as much as possible, as it is said she may visit there during the 10th moon. She has expressed the opinion that a ruler should visit more places and personally know the condition of things better. It appears to the *P. & T. Times* extremely unlikely that any visit will be paid to Paotingfu this year, however.

The *Universal Gazette* says that Viceroy Chang Chih-tung was quite ready to take the whole responsibility of the Chengchow murder case, but the British Minister negotiated with the Wai-wu-pu only and refused to settle the matter with the Viceroy, while the Consul-General of Hankow when approached said that he had no power to settle the case. It is reported that Viceroy Chang telegraphed to the Foreign Office in London asking the office to mitigate the term of the death punishment on the Chengchow military officers while all the other terms would be acceded to. The London Foreign Office in its reply seems to be more compromising, according to the *Univeral Gazette*.

The *Foochow Echo* of the 1st November says:—The long looked-for rain began to fall early on Thursday morning, the 30th ult., and continued up to last night, giving general satisfaction.—It was said that with the advent of rain dengue fever would disappear, or at any rate receive a check. It is to be hoped so, as the visitation has been a severe one, some sixty per cent. of the native population having suffered from it, and foreign residents not having escaped.—Owing to the overcast sky, nothing was seen of the partial eclipse of the sun yesterday afternoon.—The harvesting of the 2nd crop rice is to commence immediately. According to all reports the crop has not suffered so much locally from the drought as in the surrounding country districts.—We understand that all is going on well with the ponies in training for our Winter Meeting. The course was somewhat heavy after the two days' rain, and consequently the times made in the gallops this morning were poor. Three of the griffins were sent a mile for the first time.

The *Sin Wen Pao* is informed that upon the transfer of the extra-mural railway, the Chinese Government had to pay one million taels to the Russians, so the station buildings, furniture,) clocks, etc., remained intact and were not removed, while the trains ran as usual during the time of transfer, which conditions were rather unexpected by the Chinese. But when the transfer agreement was signed, the Russian authorities insisted that it should be signed by Tartar General Tseng, as Manchuria was in his jurisdiction; but the General retorted by saying that the million taels was paid by the Pei-yang Administration, so it should be signed by Viceroy Yuan. When instruction was asked for, the Peking Government ordered the latter to sign the agreement. The Russian soldiers stationed along the section between Yinkou and Shanhaikwan are gradually being replaced by Chinese soldiers. The Fengtien Army was found to be insufficient for the purpose, so Viceroy Yuan has sent out a body of troops under the command of General Kua to protect the line in conjunction with the Fengtien Army.

The Russian Minister of Finance, says the *Japan Mail*, has written to Count Matsukata saying that it will be impossible for him to visit Japan on the present occasion as his presence is required in St. Petersburg by the Tsar at an early date. The Minister's chief object in coming east seems to have been to inspect Vladivostock and Dalny. The inhabitants of Vladivostock are said to have petitioned that the place should be made a commercial port, and that certain facilities should be given to importers. At Dalny it was pointed out to the Minister that since the construction of a breakwater the port has became more liable to freeze in winter, and that an expenditure of several millions of roubles will be necessitated on that account. The breakwater in question stretches parallel to the shore. At its eastern extremity an opening is left for access to the harbour, and from the southern end of the opening a dam extends to the shore. Naturally the water inside these structures would freeze more easily than if the sea were at liberty to beat in without obstruction. It is not stated what answers M. de Witte gave to these representations either at Vladivostock or at Dalny.

COMMERCIAL.

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 14th November.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 14th November.—There is no change in the prices since last reported.

Shekloong,	No. 1, White	$8.10	to $8.15	pcl.
do.	„ 2, White	7.80	to 7.85	„
Shekloong,	No. 1, Brown	5.90	to 5.95	„
do.	„ 2, Brown	5.65	to 5.70	„
Swatow,	No. 1, White	8.00	to 8.05	„
Swatow,	No. 1, White	7.50	to 7.55	„
do.	„ 1, Brown	5.60	to 5.65	„
do.	„ 2, Brown	5.50	to 5.55	„
Foochow Sugar Candy		12.05	to 12.10	„
Shekloong	„	9.50	to 9.55	„

RICE.

HONGKONG, 14th November.—Large arrivals having been reported the prices are declining.

Saigon, Ordinary	$2.70	to 2.75
„ Round, Good quality	4.65	to 4.70
„ Long	4.80	to 4.85
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	4.05	to 4.10
„ Garden, „ No. 1	4.85	to 4.40
„ White	4.95	to 5.00
„ Fine Cargo	5.10	to 5.15

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Kelat*, sailed on the 23rd October. For New York:—13,379 rolls matting, 5,200 bales broken cassia, 4,995 cases fans, 3,125 pkgs. firecrackers, 1,250 cases cassia, 200 cases straw-cuffs, 147 pkgs. rattancore, 300 pkgs. merchandise.

Per steamer *Achilles* sailed on the 28th October. For London:—2,430 boxes scented caper 51,031 lbs., 2,323 boxes at Canton, particulars unknown, 129 cases Chinaware, 300 cases preserves 90 cases essential oil, 26 cases personal effects, 25 cases bristles, 15 cases palm leaves, 17 cases cigars, 10 cases blackwoodware, 12 cases curios, 3 cases gum copal, 39 sacks gum copal, 87 bags shell, 609 casks ginger, 52 casks soy, 6 bales mats, 50 bales feathers, 150 bales waste silk, 6,888 bales hemp, 38 pkgs. sundries. For London opt. Cont. opt. America:—113 h/chest tea, Foochow, particulars unknown. For London opt. Hamburg:—375 half chests tea, Foochow, particulars unknown. For London opt. Manchester:—150 bales waste silk. For Manchester:—50 bales waste silk. For London opt Glasgow:—275 cases preserves, 100 casks preserves. For Glasgow:—252 cases preserves. For Antwerp:—21 bales leaf tobacco. For Bremen:—3 cases cigars. For Christiania:—6 pkgs. oil.

Per M.M. steamer *Ernest Simons* sailed on the 3rd November. For Marseilles:—50 bales raw silk, 1 case silks, 18 bales hair. For Lyons:—125 bales raw silk. For Havre:—20 pkgs. tea. For Milan:—10 bales raw silk. For London:—1 case curios.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 7th November.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

		per bale		
Bombay—Nos.	10 to 20s	$84.00	to	$125.00
English—Nos.	16 to 24,	114.00	to	120.00
„	22 to 24,	120.00	to	128.00
„	28 to 32,	136.00	to	142.00
„	38 to 42,	155.00	to	170.00
COTTON PIECE GOODS—		per piece.		
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.		2.20	to	2.30
7 lbs.		2.30	to	2.50
8.4 lbs.		3.10	to	3.77½
9 to 10 lbs.		3.85	to	5.00
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.		2.60	to	2.90
58 to 60 „		3.25	to	3.45
64 to 66 „		3.55	to	5.35
Fine		5.40	to	7.85
Book-folds		4.55	to	7.00
Victoria Lawns—12 yards		0.75	to	1.40
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.		1.90	to	2.15
7lbs. (32 „), „		2.20	to	2.50
6lbs. (32 „), Mexs.		2.25	to	2.40
7lbs. (32 „), „		3.95	to	3.50
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)		3.20	to	3.75
Drills, English—40 yds., 13¾ to 14 lbs.		4.20	to	6.90
FANCY COTTONS—				
Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs		1.50	to	4.85
Brocades—Dyed		—	to	—.
DAMASKS—		per yard		
Chintzes—Assorted		—	to	—
Velvets—Black, 22 in.		0.27	to	0.60
Velveteens—18 in.		0.23	to	0.28
		per dozen		
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk		0.30	to	5.00
WOOLLENS—		per yard		
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.		0.65	to	2.25
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths		1.25	to	3.00
		per piece		
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs.		6.85	to	8.25
Assorted		7.00	to	9.40
Camlets—Assorted		15.50	to	34.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches Assorted		12.50	to	17.00
Orleans—Plain		10.00	to	—
		per pair		
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.		0.65	to	0.80
Fine quality,		1.40	to	2.10
METALS—		per picul		
Iron—Nail Rod		4.65	to	—
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.		4.65	to	—
Swedish Bar		4.70	to	—
Small Round Rod		5.05	to	—
Hoop ⅛ to 11.2 in.,		6.50	to	—
Wire, 16.25,		9.00	to	—
Old Wire Rope		3.20	to	—
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop		7.95	to	—
Australian		7.95	to	—
Yellow M'tal—Muntz 14.20 oz.		38.75	to	—
Vivian's 14.20 oz		39.00	to	—
Elliot's 14.20 oz.		39.00	to	—
Composition Nails		61.00	to	—
Japan Copper, Slabs		59.00	to	—
Tin		80.00	to	—
		box. per		
Tin-Plates		8.15	to	—
		per cwt. case		
Steel ⅛ to ⅜		6.50	to	—
SUNDRIES—		per picul		
Quicksilver		180.00	to	—
		per box.		
Window Glass		5.75	to	—
		per 10-gal. case		
Kerosene Oil		2.61	to	—

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 14th November.—Business during the past week has been quieter, but, with a few exceptions, rates continue to be fairly well maintained.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghais have ruled steady with sales at $630. The London quotation is unaltered at £64.10.0d. Nationals can be procured at $27.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have sold and are in further request at $460. China Traders after sales at $62 are enquired for at $63. Other stocks under this head are unchanged.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs fires are on offer at $350. Chinas have been placed at $85.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macaos have been booked at $37½ and close steady. Ido-Chinas have steadily advanced to $103½, and close with some sellers at $103. China and Manilas continue in request at $26. Douglases after sales at $41 are enquired for at $41½. Star Ferries close steady at $23 (old) and $13 (new) with sales at the rates. Shell Transports have changed ownership at the reduced rate of £1. 15s. 0d.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars after sales at $102 and $101 are procurable to some extent at $99. Luzons continue in request at $15.

MINING.—Punjoms have sold at $2½ and close with sellers at $2¾. Charbonnages and Jelebus are unchanged. Raubs can be placed at $6½.

DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have sold at $217½ and more shares are procurable at the rate. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves close somewhat easier at $90 sellers. New Amoy Docks are still unobtainable at the quoted buying rate of $37.

LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have sold at $185½ and $185 and further shares are procurable at the lower quotation. Kowloon Lands have improved to $31 with sales and further buyers. West Points continue in request at $48. Humphreys Estates are steady with buyers at $12½. Hongkong Hotels have sold at $136 and $137 and are strong at the latter rate. Oriente Hotels can be procured at $40.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkong Cottons can be placed at $17. Laou Kung-mows have improved in the north to Tls. 38.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have sold and more shares are obtainable at $21. China Borneos have been booked at the reduced rate of $25. A. S. Watsons have sold up to $15¼, closing with probable sellers at the rate. Ropes are offering at $125. Fenwicks have sold and are in further request at $49. Electrics (new) are in strong request at $6½, with probable sellers of the old issue at $13. Steam Water-boats are procurable at $8¾. China Providents have been booked at $10 and are further procurable at the rate. Powells can be placed to a small extent at $9.

MEMOS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ld., adjourned ordinary half-yearly meeting on the 18th instant. China Traders ordinary yearly meeting on the 25th instant. Punjom extraordinary general meeting on the 27th instant.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	$125	$630, sales L'don, £64. 10.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	£8	$27, sellers
B. Shares	£8	$27, sellers
Foun. Shares...	£1	$10, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A....	£1	$1, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	$10	$35.
China-Borneo Co., Ld.	$15	$25, sales
China Light & Power Co., Ld.	$20	$15, sellers
China Prov. L. & M....	$10	$10, sellers
China Sugar	$100	$99, sellers
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited...	$500	$500, buyers
Philippine Tobacco Invest. Co., Ld.	$50	$40, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 38, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 40.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 38.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 150.
Hongkong	$100	$17, buyers
Dairy Farm	$6	$12, sellers
Fenwick & Co., Geo....	$25	$40. buyers
Green Island Cement...	$10	$21, sales & sellers
H. & C. Bakery	$50	$40, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas ...	£10	$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric	$10 $5	$13, sales & buyers $6¼, sales & buyers
H. H. L. Tramways ...	$100	$345.
Hk. Steam Water boat Co., Ld.	$5	$8¾, sellers
Hongkong Hotel	$50	$137, buyers
Hongkong Ice	$25	$240.
H. & K. Wharf & G....	$50	$90, sellers
Hongkong Rope	$50	$125, sellers
H. & W. Dock	$50	$217½, sales & sellers.
Insurance—		
Canton	$50	$167½, sellers
China Fire	$20	$86, sellers
China Traders'	$25	$63, buyers
Hongkong Fire	$50	$350. sellers
North China	£25	Tls. 177½, sellers
Straits	$20	$1, nominal
Union	$50	$460, sales & buyers
Yangtsze	$60	$131.
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	$100	$185, sellers
Humphreys Estate...	$10	$12¾.
Kowloon Land & B.	$30	$31, buyers
West Point Building	$50	$48, buyers
Luzon Sugar	$100	$15, buyers
Manila Invest. Co., Ld.	$50	$20, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	$660, sellers
Jelebu	$5	$1¾, sellers
Punjom	$10	$2¾, sellers
Do. Preference...	$1	$1, sellers
Raubs	18	$6½, buys cum div.
New Amoy Dock	$6¾	$37, buyers
Oriente Hotel, Manila	$50	$40, sellers
Powell, Ld.	$10	$9, buyers
Robinson Piano Co., Ld.	$50	$50.
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila ...	$50 $5	$26, buyers nominal
Douglas Steamship H., Canton and M...	$50 $15	$41¼, buyers. $37½. sales
Indo-China S. N. ...	£10	$102.
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	£1	£1. 15 sales
Star Ferry	$10 $5	$23, sales $13, sales
Tebrau Planting Co....	$5	nominal.
United Abestos	$4	$8¼.
Do.	$10	$155.
Universal Trading Co., Ld.	$5	$19¼, sellers
Watkins Ld.	$10	$7, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S...	$10	$15¼.

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Shanghai, 12th November (from Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report). Business has not been very active this week, but prices on the whole have been well maintained, with improvements in some cases. BANKS.—Hongkong and Shahghai Banking Corporation. There is no local business reported. MARINE INSURANCE.—North Chinas changed hands at Tls. 180 and Yangtsze shares at $130. SHIPPING. — Indo-China S. N. Co. Business was done at Tls. 72/74½ cash, 72 for November, 73½/75 for December and 76 for March. SUGARS — China Sugar Refining shares have improved to $10. MINING.—Chinese Engineering and Mining shares were placed at Tls. 8.10. DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Shares in S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co. changed hands at Tls. 215/217½ cash, closing at 215, 222½ 220 for December, and 225, 227½ and 225, for January. LANDS.—Humphreys Estate shares were sold, and are wanted, at $12¾. INDUSTRIAL.—Shanghai Ice shares were sold at Tls. 20, China Flour Mill shares at Tls. 90, Shanghai Pulp and Paper shares at Tls. 120. Green Island Cement shares are wanted at $21. TUGS AND CARGO BOATS.—There is no change reported. MISCELLANEOUS.—Shanghai Waterwork shares are wanted. Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco shares were sold at Tls. 44½. Business was done in Shanghai-Langkat Tobacco shares at Tls. 360/350 cash, 352½ for November, 355 for December, 360 for January, 360/365 for March, and 370 for April. The market closes weak, with sellers at Tls. 345. Shanghai Horse Bazaar shares were sold at Tls. 137½. Sales were made of Central Stores shares at $25, Weeks and Co. shares at $26, and Hotel des Colonies shares at Tls. 16½.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

SATURDAY, 15th November.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/7½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/7 9/16
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/7⅝
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/8 3/16
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/7 15/16
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/8 1/16
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.04½
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.08½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	1.66½
ON NEW YORK.—Bank Bills, on demand	39¾
Credits, 60 days' sight	40½
ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer	121¾
Bank, on demand	122
ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer	121¾
Bank, on demand	122
ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight	72⅝
Private, 30 days' sight	73⅜
ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand	27 p.c pm.
ON MANILA.—On demand	¼ p.c. pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—On demand	¼ p.c. pm.
ON BATAVIA.—On demand	98
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	1½ p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—On demand	1 p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	60¾
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	$12.22
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	$63.60
BAR SILVER per oz.	22¾

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.—*Wakasa Maru* (str.), *Benmohr* (str.).

FOR LONDON.—*Shanghai* (str.), *Massilia* (str.), *Agamemnon* (str.). *Tantalus* (str.), *Ulysses* (str.), *Peleus* (str.), *Antenor* (str.), *Wakasa Maru* (str.), *Benmohr* (str.).

FOR LIVERPOOL.—*Deucalion* (str.). *Tydeus* (str.) *Alcinous* (str.).

FOR AMSTERDAM.— *Tantalus* (str.).

FOR MARSEILLES.—*Annam* (str.), *Shanghai*, (str.), *Wakasa Maru* (str.).

FOR BREMEN.—*Gera* (str.), *Serbia* (str.).

FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.— *Serbia* (str.), *Marburg* (str.), *Suevia* (str.), *Alesia* (str.), *Nurnberg* (str.), *Silesia* (str.).

FOR GENOA.—*Benmohr* (str.).

FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—*Glenogle* (str.), *Moyune* (str.), *Iyo Maru* (str.).

FOR VANCOUVER.—*Empress of India* (str.), *Tartar* (str.).

FOR NEW YORK.—*Lowther Castle* (str.), *Charles Tiberghien* (str.).

FOR BALTIMORE,—*Charles Tiberghien* (str.).

FOR PORTLAND (OR.).—*Indraqura* (str.).

FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—*Kasuga Maru* (str.), *Changsha* (str.), *Australian* (str.).

FOR BOMBAY VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—*Yamaguchi Maru* (str.).

FOR SANDAKAN.—*Sandakan* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

ARRIVALS.

November—
7, Benarty, British str., from Kutchinotzu
7, Feiching, Chinese str., from Shanghai
7, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
7, Rajaburi, German str., from Bangkok.
8, Changsha, British str. from Australia.
8, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
8, Shakano Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
8, Sullberg, German str., from Newchwang.
9, Decima, German str., from Swatow.
9, Diu, Portuguese gunboat, from Macao.
9, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
9, Kuchidate Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
9, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
9, Kweiyang, British str., from Canton.
9, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., from Anping.
9, Marie Jebsen, German str., from Shanghai.
9, Nairung, British str., from Rangoon.
9, Palawan, British str., from Southampton.
9, Pingsuey, British str., from Seattle.
9, Woosung, British str., from Shanghai.
10, Hupeh, British str., from Canton.
10, Keongwai, German str., from Bangkok.
10, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Canton.
10, Rohilla Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
10, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
11, Anamba, Danish str., from Bangkok.
11, Chas. Tiberghien, Fr. str., from Foochow.
11, Deuteros, German str., from Manila.
11, Hinsang, British str., from Shanghai.
11, Hoihao, French str., from Pakhoi.
11, Kwongsang, British str., from Hamburg.
11, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
11, Lowther Castle, British str., from Amoy.
11, Lyeemoon, German str., from Canton.
11, Mongkut, German str., from Bangkok.
11, Pronto, German str., from Canton.
11, Quarta, German str., from Chefoo.
11, Sachsen, German str., from Yokohama.
11, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
11, Tsurugisan Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
11, Wakamotsu Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
11, Whampoa, British str., from Canton.
11, Zafiro, British str., from Canton.
12, Anping, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
12, Bygdo, Norwegian str., from Chefoo.
12, Glenartney, British str., from Shanghai.
12, Guthrie, British str., from Australia.
12, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
12, Java, British str., from Yokohama.
12, Kiautschou, German str., from Bremen.
12, Machew, German str., from Triton Isld.
12, M. Bacquehem, Austrian str., from Moji.
12, Shansi, British str., from Wuhu.
12, Skramstad, Norwegian sttr., from Wuhu.
12, Tirol, Austrian str., from Bombay.
12, Chiyo Maru, Japanese str., from Chefoo.
13, Alcinous, British str., from Liverpool.
13, Argonaut, British cr., from Weihaiwei.
13, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui,
13, Esang, British str., from Wuhu.
13, Foochow, British str., from Chinkiang.
13, Hopsang, British str., from Wuhu.
13, Malacca, British str., from London.
13, Mogul, British str., from London.
13, Peru, American str., from San Francisco.
13, Suevia, German str., from Hamburg.
13, Tientsin, British str., from Wuhu.
13, Wingsang, British str., from Canton.
14, Deramore, Norwegian str., from Hongay,
14, Heinr. Menzell, German str., from Wuhu.
14, Hitachi Maru, Jap. str, from Shanghai.
14, Karin, Swedish str., from Bangkok.
14, Koun Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
14, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
14, Kowloon, German str., from Yangtsze.
14, Nanshan, British str., from Ang Hin.
14, Puglia, Austrian cruiser, from Shanghai.
14, Rubi, British str, from Manila.
14, Savoia, German str., from Vladivostock.
14, Shantung, German str., from Langkat.
14, Taichiow, German str., from Bangkok.
14, Thea, German str., from Wuhu.
15, Anping Maru, Jap. str., from Coast Ports.
15, Asama, Japaness cruiser, from Bangkok.
15, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Tsintau.
15, Chowtai, German str., from Bangkok.
15, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
15, Laertes, British str., from Hoihow.
15, Namsang, British str., from Calcutta.
15, Takasaga, Japanese cr., from Bangkok.
15, Tetartos, German str., from Singapore.
15, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
15, Vindobona, Austrian str., from Singapore
16, Annam, French str., from Shanghai.
16, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
16, Kaifong, British str., from Cebu.
16, Salamanca, British str., from Bangkok.
16, Taurus, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.

November— DEPARTURES.

8, Andree Rickmers, Ger. str., for Bangkok.
8, Chusan, British str., for Europe.
8, Fungshun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
8, Kaiser Karl VI., Aust. cr., for Nanking.
8, Kampot, French str., for Saigon.
8, Loongsang, British str, for Manila.
8, Parramatta, British str., for Shanghai.
8, Perla, British str, for Manila.
8, Pitsanulok, German str., for Bangkok.
8, Pronto, Norwegian str., for Newchwang.
8, Saxonia, German str., for Hamburg.
8, Selsdon, British str., for Singapore.
8, Shawmut, British str., for Tacoma.
8, Sishan, British str., for Swatow.
9, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
9, Devawongse, German str., for Bangkok.
9, Nanshan U.S. collier, for Manila.
9, Ness, British str., for Moji.
9, Ningpo, British str., for Shanghai.
9, Picciola, German str., for Newchwang.
9, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
9, Tyr, Norwegian str., for Hongay.
10, Labor, Norwegian str., for Chinkiang.
10, Sullberg, German str., for Canton.
11, Baikal, French str., for Honkohe.
11, Decima, German str., for Saigon.
11, Haiphong, French str., for Haiphong.
11, Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.
11, Hanoi, French str., for Pakhoi.
11, Hangsang, British str. for Shanghai.
11, Hinsang, British str., for Canton.
11, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., for K'chinotzu.
11, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.
11, Quang-nam, French str., for Saigon.
11, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.
11, Theodor Wille, Norw. str., for Samarang.
11, Wakool, British transport, for Calcutta.
11, Woosung, British str., for Canton.
11, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
12, Bisagno, Italian str., for Bombay.
12, Blenheim, British cruiser, for Mirs Bay.
12, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
12, Hue, French str., for Kwangchauwan.
12, Hupeh, British str., for Shanghai.
12, Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
12, Kweiyang, British str., for Tientsin.
12, Loongmoon, German str, for Canton.
12, Lowther Castle, British str., for New York.
12, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
12, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
12, Menelaus, British str., for London.
12, Michael Jebsen, German str., for Hoihow.
12, Pingsuey, British str., for London
12, Pronto, German str, for Newchwang.
12, Quarta, German str., for Canton.
12, Sachsen, German str., for Europe.
12, Shansi, British str., for Canton.
12, Vale of Doon. British barque, for Rajang.
12, Diu, Portuguese gunboat, for Macao.
12, Espiegle, British cruiser, for Singapore.
13, Anping, Chinese str., for Canton.
13, Bygdo, Norwegian str., for Canton.
13, Catherine Apcar, Brit. str., for Calcutta.
13, Cassius, German str., for Chinkiang.
13, Changsha, British str., for Kobe.
13, Chiyo Maru, Japanese str., for Canton.
13, Chowfa, German str., for Bangkok.
13, Esang, British str., for Canton.
13, Foochow, British str., for Canton.
13, F. Reyes, American str., for Manila.
13, Guthrie, British str., for Shanghai.
13, Hansa, German str., for Iloilo.
13, Kiautschou, German str., for Shanghai.
13, Machew, German str., for Triton Island.
13, Nippon Maru, Jap. str., for S. Francisco.
13, Rajaburi, German str., for Bangkok.
13, Skramstad, Norwegian str., for Canton.
13, Sullberg, German str., for Newchwang.
13, Tientsin, British str., for Canton.
13, Tirol, Austrian str., for Shanghai.
13 Triumph, German str., for Wuhu.
13, Tsurugisan MARU, Jap. str., for Moji.
13, Whampoa, British str., for Shanghai.
14, Deuteros, German str., for Newchwang.
14, Glenartney, British str., for London.
14, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
14, Heinrich Menzell, Ger. str., for Canton.
14, Hoihao, French str., for Pakhoi.
14, Hopsang, British str., for Canton.
14, Java, British str., for London.

14, Keongwai, German str., for Bangkok.
14, Shakano Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
14, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
14, Wingsang, British str., for Shanghai.
14, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
15, Alcinous, British str., for Shanghai.
15, Chas. Tiberghien, Brit. str., for N. York.
15, Hitachi Maru, Jap. str., for London.
15, Malacca, British str., for Shanghai.
15, P. C. C. Klao, British str., for Bangkok.
15, Oceana, German str., for Sydney.
15, Rohilla Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.
15, Tsinan, British str., for Australia.
16, Benarty, British str., for Sourabaya.
16, Daigi Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
16, Kwongsang, British str., for Tsintau.
16, Mogul, British str., for Shanghai
16, Sandakan, German str., for Sandakan.
16, Suevia, German str., for Shanghai.
16, Thales, British str., for Swatow.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Thales*, from Swatow, Miss Arnold, Major Bencon, Messrs. T. M. Sullivan and F. P. Fadten.

Per *Rosetta Maru*, from Manila, Mr and Mrs. Moreno, Mr. and Mrs. Henry, Misses Henry, Mrs. Earnshaw, Miss Maria Santos, Messrs. C. G. Edwards, B. Wilson, Pedro Barull, T. G. Eskridge, Van Horan, G. Williams, A. C. Anderson, Esperito Gonzales, Samasaki, Francisco, I. Fizziald, S. J. Peterson, Capt. Cannaw and Lieut. McCube.

Per *Chusan*, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Mrs. Blackstock Downey, Misses Potter and Alexander, Pere Penocchio, Messrs. I. R. Grant, Ikaba, E. Owen, Mitchell, F. W. Newsom, S. S. David, and V. Grental; for Bombay, Comdr. and Mrs. F. H. Elderton, Lieut. Huddleston, Messrs. C. Perrot and J. McAuliffe; from London, Misses M. J. Shewring and E. E. Metcalfe.

Per *Parramatta*, for Hongkong, from London, Mr. and Mrs. Craik and three children, Mrs. Bull, Messrs. Bundy, Roberts-West, Formby and Comrie; from Marseilles, Dr. and Mrs. Paton, Misses Commins, Lear and Carpenter, Rev. Hind, Messrs. Reeves, Saunders and Davies; from Colombo, Messrs. Moreton and Pearce; from Singapore, Mr. Bliss: for Shanghai, from London, Mr. and Mrs. Kirk, Mr. and Mrs. Chatham, Miss Chatham and child; from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Cope, Mrs. McCallum, Miss Godson and Mr. Keily; from Bombay, Mr. and Miss Perry; from Singapore, Mrs. Barkley, Messrs. Warner and Barry: for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Walters.

Per *Woosung*, from Shanghai, Mr. Law.

Per *Haitan*, from Coast Ports, Mr. and Mrs. Kurtovitch, Dr. Atte, Messrs. W. R. Hayes, Benson, L. Moosa and E. Roese.

Per *Changsha*, from Australia, &c., Mrs. Currier, Mrs. de Lacy, Mrs. Wisbey, Misses Waldorf, Stanley, Yorke, M. Yorke, Love, Russell, Herrick, Lynch, P. Lynch and Rayford, Dr. Susuki, Messrs. Rulie, McGregor, Forbes, Boyfield, Cambell, Fitchett, Clarke, Goldberg, de Lacy, Walker, Leizey, Ryan, Wisbey, Power, McKensie, Mason, Glass and Mate.

Per *Hinsang*, from Shanghai, &c., Mr. Watson.

Per *Sungkiang*, from Manila, Mrs. Blanche, Mrs. Seagram, Mrs. Bradyse, Misses Sheer, Wolfe, Thacher, Levy and Malagon, Messrs. Ebenhardt, Florence, Ball, Flemming, Woodburn, Vanderlip, Casteller and Smith.

Per *Sachsen*, from Yokohama, Mrs. G. A. Bunbury, Miss Carnie, Lieut. Fred. M. Eslick, Rev. Hackmann, Messrs. Wenceslaw Paris, R. Grundy, G. Hadden, Dall de Weese, H. Schuberts, C. Witmus, B. A. Gould, K. W. Monsey, William Martin, C. H. Scott and A. Hone.

Per *Zafiro*, from Manila, Mrs. Wright, Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Bapst, Misses Ward and Gertsch, Commissioner H. C. Ide, Capts. McCracken, Geo. Parker, Dutton and McDonald, Messrs. G. McDonnell, C. P. Fowler, J. Pateio, W. H. Clarke, Jas. Claresby, O. Beandry, Levie, Geo. Wolf, Boyd, Flow, M. Siva, Newman, Eilertson, Marquez and Hitsumatsu.

Per *Java*, for London, from Foochow, Miss Dopping Hepenstal and Mr. C. S. Kerrett Rogers; from Shanghai, Mr. L. E. Canning.

Per *Guthrie*, from Melbourne, Dr. and Mrs. K. Soga, Mrs. S. T. Knaggs, Mrs. Sum, Rev. Walter Strathan, Messrs. C. H. Barnes, J. McEachran, H. S. Dupree, T. Rosser, H. McLeod and E. G. N. Gibbs.

Per *Anping*, from Shanghai, Messrs. Scott, Clements, G. H. William, and Leg and Rev. R. McCulloch.

Per *Mogul*, from London, &c., Mr. Deacon.

Per *Peru*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Helvie, Mr. and Mrs H. P. Smart, Mr. H. P. Smart, jr., Misses J. M. D. Smart, Y. M. Smart, S. G. Smart, Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Rutter, Miss B. Rutter, Mrs. L. Collins, Mrs. J. S. Minor, Misses Isabell Vernon and Florence Vernon, Comdr. R. R. Ingersoll, U.S.N., Messrs. R. Retaillian, G. M. Lack, C. Weyersburg, E. G. Eager, E. W. Rutter and Jas. McInnis.

Per *Malacca*, from London, for Hongkong, Lieuts. J. B. Stevenson and M. C. Allenby, Midshipmen G. H. S. Moxley and A. B. Cornabe, Naval Cadets R. T. Dimsdale, H. H. Teale, F. W. Scott and H. S. Braddyll and Gunner C. C. Collingwood; for Manila, Mr. J. Bair; for Shanghai, Mrs. J. Boyce Kup and Mrs. Grundy and child; for Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. Kimmins and infant and Mr. H. H. E. Cabeldu.

Per *Kiautschou*, for Hongkong, from Bremen, Mrs Gesine Lehmann, Mrs. Martens and children and Dr. Gust. Schwabe; from Southampton, Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Griffith, Mrs. F. H. May and children, Mrs. Moxon and child, Mr. and Mrs. Alex. Mackenzie and children, Mrs. Geo. W. Playfair, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Shepherd, Mrs. E. C. Shepherd, Misses L. F. Bradley and Florence Hamilton, Messrs. A. Bain and T. Stevenson; from Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Gros, Capt. and Mrs. Petersen and child, Mrs. N. A. Siebs, Miss E. Siebs, Mr. B. Siebs, Messrs. Paul Barbillon, K. Bleek, C. Ewens and Charles Meurer; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Petersen: for Shanghai, from Bremen, Mr. and Mrs. Koenig and children, Mrs. Menard and children, Mrs. Schwartz and children, Mr. and Mrs. L. Sorensen, Miss Danielsen, Messrs. Büsing, Götting, Glaue, Hoffmann, Hellfach, Hungsberg Hübner, Kautsch, S. Morath, Pachten, Quaritsch, S. Scharf, Wendschurch and Wilrandt; from Antwerp, Mr. Laurent Vhamiinck; from Southampton, Rev. and Mrs. Koland Allen, Mrs. Anna Berg, Mr. and Mrs. Guy D. B. Bidwell and children, Mrs J. Alice Bourne, Mrs. Drake and child, Mrs. C. P. Fitz Gerald, Rev. and Mrs. J. H. Heywood and children, Mrs. H. M. Hillier, Mr. and Mrs. A. Holroyd, Messrs. Frank Holroyd, Florrie Holroyd, Ethel Holroyd, Millie Holroyd, Albert Holroyd, Mrs. Hutton, Mr. and Mrs. C. Selby Moore, Miss Moore, Mrs. Macpherson, Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Russell, Mr. and Mrs. R. Sutherland and child, Mrs. Way and child, Misses Hilma Börjeson, Florence E. Page and von Poseck, Rev. W. Browne, Messrs. T. W. Chapman, Chas. Grant, H. Chr. Müller, Thomas Setter and J. H. Tudsbury; from Genoa, Mrs. Gertine Johnsen, Mr. and Mrs. A. Kirchner, Dr. and Mrs. Kember, Rev. and Mrs. W. S. Moule, Archdeacon and Mrs. Moule, Mrs. H. von Rucker and children, Mr. and Mrs. A. Scagliotti, Mr. and Mrs. Henrik Seiffarth and child, Mrs. Elisabeth Schubart and children, Mr. and Mrs. Aug. Berg, Mr. and Mrs. von Erggelet, Mr. and Mrs. Karl Jaeger, Misses Erika Andreassen, Sigrid Engstrom, Anna Erikson, Frieda Grewe, Emma Krug, Marie Kraibacher, Svigne Lagergsen, Clara Omland, Frida Prytz and Sandsberg, Messrs. Jacob Alvreberg, Olaf Borthen, Peter Erikram, Kristian England, Clav Espegrea, L. Furstenberg, Karl Hauck, Ole Helland, von Moisy, Rich. Olsen, Reinsdorf, D. Schellhoss, Max Stahn, Amandus Stevold, Knut Samset and T. Skraastadt: for Kobe, from Southampton, Rev. and Mrs. G. Chapman and children, Mrs. Russell and children and Miss Emma Klett; from Genoa, Miss Head, Messrs. O. H. Knight and K. Reiff: for Yokohama, from Bremen, Mr. and Mrs. Georg Matsudeira, Mrs. Gemahlin and Mr. D. von Janson; from Southampton, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Fearon and children, Rev. and Mrs. Geo. F. Pentacost, Mrs. and Miss Plummer, Mrs. Louisa Russell, Miss Marion Russell, Mrs. H. Syme Thomson, Mr. and Mrs. Watanabe and children, Mrs. H. A. Crowell, Misses Fischer and Gumpert, Messrs. M. C. Carr-Gomm, E. A. Denbigh and H. Lefeber from Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. Carr-Gomm, Miss M. Winterfeldt, Messrs. R. Bertog, Thomas Cranston, v. Cottendorf, Reginald Farrer, I. Hirai, Sam. Lamb, jr., Matsura, Nagano, J; Okamoto, Stanley Raby and Max v. Tessen, from Colombo, Mrs M. A. Kendel.

Per *Taichiow*, from Bangkok, Mr. Benjamin.

Per *Hitachi Maru*, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Mrs. W. H. Halbrook and two children, Mrs. Lanoham, Mrs. Rhodes, Capt. C. D. Rhodes, Messrs. J. H. Kemp, Hirst, R. Livingstone, B. Kashiwabara, T. Sugiura, S. Nakazono and A. Surami; for Singapore, Miss Clerke, Messrs. F. Hilton, J. B. Beattie, M. Rivas, T. Yonei, and M. Takazaki; for Penang, Mrs. H. H. Gilby and child; for Colombo, Messrs. James Hartley, T. Kusumoto, S. Yasuda and K. Seki; for London, Messrs. E. Nelson, J. Carswell, J. Carnish, A. Thoup, H. F. Lovell and H. Mathias.

DEPARTED.

Per *Kumsang*, for Singapore, Mrs. Matheson Smith and child; for Calcutta, Mrs. D. Ellis, Miss Maude Ahren and Mr. G. Rodgers.

Per *Chusan*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Rev. Santos, Messrs. H. E. Laslett, Haleen and Sardai Khan; for Penang, Mr. Takin; for Bombay, Lieut. and Mrs. Piris, Lieut. Vale, R.I.M., Messrs. D. Abdoolally, A. W. Ebrahim and Grental; for Brindisi, Mrs. Parke and daughter and Rev. F. Pacifico; for London, Miss Alexander, Lieut. and Miss Cleeve, Messrs. J. H. Brooks, W. E. Demuth, R. H. Goodman, J. T. Wilson, F. C. Carpenter and H. Anderson.

Per *Loongsang*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Munoz, Mrs. A. Sanz, Miss M. Salter, Messrs. L. J. Baumbach, M. G. Hella, N. Lawrence, A. Thompson, A. Mohen, A. Sanz and A. Reyes.

Per *Rosetta Maru*, for Manila, Messrs. Joseph O'Rosco, W. D. Graham, M. Otsu, Frank Lyon, John W. Taylor, C. G. Edwards, H. Tsuda, K. Hatanaka, O. Moriyama, F. M. Elick, T. Y. Takahama, F. M. F. Luz, C. H. Van Horen, P. E. Henrikson, John Reid, jr., C. Morton, F. J. Pearse, A. Howe, K. Yamada and R. Allen, Misses H. Groves, H. Arai, C. Urakami, S. Okuma, T. Hashimoto and Nao Sato, Mr. and Mrs. Sumita and daughter, Mrs. C. Yamashita, Mrs. M. Kawada; Mrs. S. B. Kaneko, Mrs. R. Hashimoto and Mrs. Ushida.

Per *Sachsen*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Mowbray Jones, Hon. C. B. Ponsonby, Messrs. J. A. de Rothschild, M. Mehta and Chas. Meikleham; for Penang, Mrs. Hinkle, Miss Childs and Mr. M. Siva; for Genoa, Rev. M. J. Walker, Capts J. Jessen and Junge, Messrs. Joh. Banmeyer, J. Lamke, Armin Haupt, Franz Dobrowohl, H. Weideli and J. H. Anderson; for London, Messrs. Thos. J. Lant, H. Mason and W. Findlay; for Southampton, Mr. A. Gordon; for Hamburg, Messrs. Max Schubbe and J. Kenchel.

Per *Hupeh*, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. St. Clair.

Per *Whampoa*, for Shanghai, Mrs. Scher, Mrs. Suffe, Miss L. Rayford; Messrs. Sare, Kessen and F. Glass.

Per *Nippon Maru*, for Shanghai, Misses Ward and Gertsch, Messrs. W. B. Vanderlip, W. Milne and L. Mooser; for Kobe, Dr. and Mrs. Soga; for Yokohama, Capt. R. M. Dutton; for San Francisco, Mrs. T. Heyward Hayes, Messrs. P. H. Ashmead, Geo. E. Wolf, L. Jane and James E. Clasby.

Per *Kiautschou*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Dr. and Mrs. L. Braun, Mrs. Lehmann, Mrs. J. J. Leiria, Mrs. M. A. A. de Souza, Mr. and Mrs. Ellinger, Miss Fonseça, Messrs. J. A. Wallie, F. B. von der Pfordten, S. J. David, A. Levie and J. H. Smyth; for Nagasaki, Messrs. S. M. H. Careem, K. Inoni and T. Yamaguchi; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Walter and Mr. T. Hisamatsu.

Per *Zafiro*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Brower, Dr. and Mrs. J. F. Penticost, Miss Penticost, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Helvie, Messrs. B. W. Nuttall, W. Paris, J. Haer and G. F. Witton.

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